

HOME NEWS

Special Labour Party conference to unite opposition against Tory policies urged by TGWU

By Donald Macintyre
Labour Reporter

The Transport and General Workers' Union is seeking an urgent recall of the Labour Party conference principally in an attempt to stiffen opposition to the Government's economic policies.

The initiative was announced yesterday by Mr Mostyn (Moss), the general secretary, at the close of the week-long meeting of the union's executive. The TGWU is the party's largest affiliate.

Mr Evans foresees a one-day special conference attended by the same delegates who attended last year's Brighton conference.

He told Mr Ronald Hayward, the party's general secretary, yesterday that he would write to him formally to make the request, which will then have to be discussed by the national executive.

He said the TGWU executive had requested the recall of the conference because they "considered the situation to be so serious and they see a rapid deterioration in the economy of the country".

Special Labour Party conferences are not common, but Mr Evans yesterday cited the precedent of the one held in London in 1975 on Labour's policy on the EEC.

Mr Evans said yesterday that the union's executive wanted the conference to get to the heart of the economic policy opposed to the monetarist policies being pursued by the Government.

The conference would, for example, discuss the impact of the steel industry on the economy, he said, up to 50,000 jobs could be lost as a result of manpower

reductions at Llanwern and Port Talbot.

He said that commentators had "widely reported" and "exaggerated" divisions in the party.

"There still is that doubt among political commentators that the party is far as united as it should be. The best way to remove that doubt is to get together and show the public we have a common policy."

The original proposal was put before the executive by representatives from the union's Humberside region, promoting a discussion in which one or two rank-and-file members

apparently complained of "disillusionment" with the party among some workers.

Mr Evans said, however, that his own impression was that membership and interest in the party were increasing.

London rally to denounce Tory policies

By Our Labour Staff

Thousands of trade unionists from all over the country plan to march through London tomorrow to protest at the Government's economic and social policies and the Employment Bill.

The demonstration, organized by the Trades Union Congress, is expected to attract a large crowd, which may exceed the march by more than 100,000 against the Conservative Government's economic policy in 1971.

More than 20 special trains and 400 buses will bring union members to London.

The march starts in Hyde Park and will end at a rally in Trafalgar Square, where the crowd will be addressed by the senior union leaders and Mr Len Murray, the TUC general secretary.

Extra police are being drafted into London to marshal the crowd, which is expected to take two and a half hours to march from Hyde Park to Trafalgar Square.

The demonstration is one part of the TUC's campaign against government policies. It will be followed by a day of action in May.

Our Social Services Correspondent writes: Delegations from Rights of Women and the National Women's Aid Federation will be joining the TUC march to protest at the implications of the Employment Bill for women workers.

The two organizations are particularly concerned at the dilution of maternity leave and reinstatement rights proposed in the Bill, which would exempt small employers and ease the obligations of larger ones.

Maze protest relatives complain to Mr Atkins

From Christopher Thomas

Close relatives of republican prisoners on "dirty protest" at the Maze prison, near Belfast, and the Armagh women's jail met Mr Humphrey Atkins, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, yesterday to protest about conditions.

The delegation, headed by Mr John Hume, leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party, was told there was no prospect of special category status being granted to the H block protesters at the Maze, who are refusing to wash and are smearing themselves with excrement.

There are fears that a similar protest is building up at the Armagh jail, where for more than three weeks 32 women have been conducting a "dirty" protest.

The Northern Ireland Office last night confirmed that there was no change in the situation.

An official said the women were refusing evening association but were taking one hour's exercise a day. They continued to refuse to use washing and lavatory facilities.

Magistrates at Haywards Heath, Sussex, who acquitted a motorist of speeding because they had doubts on whether he had been given a roadside warning about possible prosecution were wrong, the High Court decided yesterday.

Lord Ackner said: "The law provides that a warning requirement shall be deemed to have been complied with until copy is provided."

To discharge the onus on a driver that the warning requirement had not been carried out, he had at least to satisfy magistrates that he probably did not hear it.

Mr Justice Mansfield agreed that a police appeal from a decision of the magistrates on February 14, 1978, acquitting Mr Christopher Ransom, of exceeding the speed limit, should be allowed.

The court ordered that the case should go back to the magistrates for them to convict.

Their consultant haematologist had also met senior officers of the Scottish Home and Health Department and had asked that the grave concern should be brought to Mr Younger's notice.

The staff's action goes back to the breakdown of national pay talks at the end of last year. Since then the service has continued because of local pay agreements made between health boards and the scientific officers' union, the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs.

Mr Russell Fairgrieve, Under Secretary of State at the Scottish Office, has said health boards had no legal right to make such agreements. Both sides were well aware of that.

The management had made several pay offers. The latest was for a total increase of about 24 per cent.

Mr Fairgrieve said the staff's claim, which they refused to modify, in negotiations, was completely unrealistic. The staff had withdrawn from the national agreement, he said, and appeared to have withdrawn from national negotiations.

Tomatoes hid £500,000 of cannabis, prosecution says

Screens of ripening tomatoes on an isolated Devon farm hid cannabis worth £500,000, the prosecution said at Exeter Crown Court yesterday.

An elaborate watering system had been set up to nurture nearly 2,000 plants in four plastic greenhouses, Mr Anthony Donne, for the Crown, added.

Instruction books on how to grow cannabis were found in the house.

Nigel Bullock, aged 36, and Roger Russell, aged 38, pleaded guilty to unlawfully cultivating cannabis but not guilty to possessing the drug with intent to supply.

Their friends, Evelyn Bowen, aged 21, and Jennifer Geary, aged 20, whose home address was given as North Bersted Street, Bognor Regis, Sussex, denied both charges. The offences were said to have been committed between January 1, and September 22 last year.

Mr Donne said the two were living at Barton Farm, Higher Compton, near Paignton, Devon, when drugs squad officers made their raid at 8 am, last September.

The trial continues on Monday.

Offer to buy Mr Mason's sponsorship from miners

An offer to "buy" the sponsorship of Mr Roy Mason, Labour MP for Barnstaple, from the Yorkshire miners, led by Mr Arthur Scargill, was made yesterday. It came from Mr Paul Sykes, a wealthy businessman.

After last week's takeover of Mr Mason's constituency Labour Party by the miners, there are fears that they will refuse to reelect him as the official candidate.

Mr Sykes said: "To help the local Labour Party free itself from the NUM militants, I am willing to give the party the same contribution it now gets

London traffic wardens' pay to be reviewed

By Our Labour Staff

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, is to set up a working party of officials from his department, the Metropolitan Police and the Civil Service Union to examine the pay of London's traffic wardens.

The union said Mr Whitelaw earlier this week and impressed on him the need to review pay so that staff shortages in the traffic warden service can be eliminated. The union claims that wardens are paid less than clerical assistants, and court ushers who are members of the union.

Union officials are pressing for the working party report to be published before the end of this month, "because of the urgency of the situation".

Mr John Sheldon, the CSU deputy general secretary, said last night that at the end of last month the service was more than 800 under the normal complement of nearly 1,900.

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Some of the 6,000 students marching through London.

Mr Jenkins pledges union aid for students' campaign

Mr Clive Jenkins pledged his union's support yesterday for students demonstrating for increased grants and against public spending cuts.

Addressing a rally of about 6,000 students in London, Mr Jenkins, who is general secretary of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs, and education spokesman of the TUC, said the union would be doing all in its power to support the campaign against the cuts.

Students marched from the National Union of Students' headquarters in Mallet Street, to Department of Education and Science buildings at Waterloo.

The students are pressing for a 36 per cent increase in grants and they also want an end to means testing by local authorities to find out how much parents can pay towards their children's education.

Mr Jenkins said the staff's claim, which they refused to modify, in negotiations, was completely unrealistic. The staff had withdrawn from the national agreement, he said, and appeared to have withdrawn from national negotiations.

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Atom waste warning of civil disobedience

From Our Correspondent

A council official spoke yesterday of his serious concern that civil disobedience could result if the Atomic Energy Authority (AEA) won its appeal against the refusal of planning permission to carry out test borings for a possible nuclear waste dump at Loch Doon, Strathclyde.

Mr James Paterson, convenor of the Cumnock and Doon Valley District Council, was giving evidence at a public inquiry at Ayr into the refusal of planning permission by the neighbouring Kyle and Carrick council. He said he had been totally opposed to the idea of test borings from the outset of the AEA's proposal in 1976.

Almost the whole population of his district was against the bore. "The only people who have not voiced opposition are the people who never voice an opinion about anything, the apathetic," he said.

The reaction varied from fear to anger. Fear, he said, was common among married couples with families. Anger came from the 35 to 45 age group.

This worries me very much. I think it is a very serious problem indeed. I would not condone civil disobedience; but in the area covered by my council it is quite rife, this civil disobedience idea.

There was a big risk that the threat of civil disobedience would deter the industrialists his council was trying to attract to the Doon Valley, which at one time had been labelled "Doon Valley" by its inhabitants.

Mr William Campbell, who is conducting the inquiry, will inspect the proposed test bore area at Mullwharch, seven miles from the loch, today.

Train guards: British Rail is considering putting police guards on some of its nuclear waste-carrying trains because of public concern about the movement of waste by rail (the Press Association reports). It is also planned to keep the trains moving through London without leaving them in sidings.

Security operations are already being mounted at railheads when the 50-ton flasks are loaded.

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Tinplate business in Wales 'jeopardized'

By Peter Hill

Industrial Editor

Up to a quarter of the British Steel Corporation's tinplate business in South Wales could be jeopardized because of the steel strike and inroads made by foreign suppliers, the Metal Packaging Manufacturers' Association reported yesterday.

The warning, issued by Mr Alec Hayward, the organization's chairman, was given as the EEC Social Affairs Commissioner, Mr Henk Vredeling, welcomed the fact that Britain had "woken up at long last" to the commission's proposals for the transition in the British steel industry.

Mr Hayward said that a permanent drop in demand equivalent to 250,000 tonnes a year could mean at least one of the four tinplate mills in South Wales being left without a home market for its output.

Markets and product lines, he said, were being lost to foreign competitors who were establishing themselves at the expense of British manufacturers.

The can-making and food-processing sectors have been among the sectors of industry worst affected by the strike. Metal Box has laid off 400 workers and yesterday H. J. Heinz warned workers at its plants in the United Kingdom that further layoffs might be implemented later this month if the strike is not settled.

Against this background, the new wave of talks between the BSC and the steel unions, which are members of the Transport and General Workers' Union, were ordered not to cross picket lines established outside supporting steel consuming companies.

The instruction was issued with the aim of halting the import of supplies to customers of the BSC of oil, industrial gas and steel, Mr Mostyn (Moss) said.

Speaking after talks with James Watson, the Secretary of State for Employment, and Len Murray, the TUC general secretary, Mr Vredeling confirmed that proposals would be put before the EEC Council Ministers by the end of the week.

Mr Vredeling said that the possibility of Britain securing aid from the fund to promote early retirement in the steel industry, where 53,000 workers are to be made redundant as part of the retirement programme, has attracted interest from the BSC as a means of alleviating the social consequences of the job loss.

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Best TV actor award to Sir Alec Guinness

By Our Arts Reporter

Named the best television actor of 1979 in the annual awards, the Broadcasting Press Guild, a association of television critics, has chosen Sir Alec Guinness for the award.

Guinness, who played the part of George Smiley in *Archer* and *Shogun*, was also named the best actor in the *Archer* series.

Single play, *Blue Remembered Hills*, by Dennis Potter (BBC) was named the best play. *The Zero Hour* (BBC) was named the best drama. *The Zero Hour* (BBC) was named the best drama.

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British fish stocks at risk despite curbs

By Our Agriculture Correspondent

Government scientists said yesterday that stocks of several species of fish would be at risk in waters near Britain this year.

Partial ban placed on untreated milk sales after poisoning cases

By Hugh Clayton
Agriculture Correspondent

Ministers announced yesterday that there was to be a partial ban on sales of untreated milk in Scotland and in 1985 in the rest of the United Kingdom.

Several cases of food poisoning have been traced to such milk which is sold by about 4,000 of the 50,000 dairy farmers in the United Kingdom.

It was clear that ministers had disagreed about the measure, which comes after a review by the Conservatives of the policy adopted by the Labour government in 1973. That was to ban sales of untreated milk from the summer of 1983.

Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, has decided to continue the Labour policy. Ministers responsible for the rest of the country have inserted an important loophole which will allow farmers to continue selling to individuals but not to shops or canteens.

Mr Younger said in a parliamentary written reply yesterday: "There is little evidence of positive consumer demand for untreated milk. Ministers have accepted evidence from health authorities that the green cap is not distinctive enough, and that untreated milk should be labelled as such."

He said that ministers responsible for Wales and Northern Ireland had agreed with him to make the new measures begin in 1985 in all parts of the United Kingdom except Scotland. All ministers agreed, however, that the extra penny a pint charged for untreated milk should no longer be allowed. Dairy farmers have told the Government that the extra penny was unjustified.

Obstruction by son of ex-minister

Christopher Marsh, aged 18, the son of Sir Richard Marsh, the former Labour Cabinet minister, was found guilty of obstructing the police during a right-to-work demonstration.

Mr Marsh and two other men were given conditional discharges for 12 months. The magistrates convicted Mr Marsh despite a claim by Mr Patrick Mulven, for the defence, that the police had "invaded evidence" when they realised who his father was.

Mr Marsh is a student of Crossfield Road, Swiss Cottage, and Jonathan Flaig, of Glendon House, Hackney, both London, denied obstructing the police during a demonstration outside County Hall, Julian Bild, a student of Glendon House, denied obstructing the police.

Police-constable Mark McKay said Mr Bild was arrested after he had insulted guests arriving for a banquet. Mr Flaig tried to stop officers putting Mr Bild into a police van and Mr Marsh held the van door and would not let go, he said.

Mr Marsh told the court he had gone to see why Mr Bild was being arrested. He denied holding the van door.

RAC vans may be white to protect patrols

By Peter Wymark
Morning Correspondent

The Royal Automobile Club is reporting that all-white vehicles because of concern at the risks facing patrols attending breakdowns on the hard shoulders of motorways.

An RAC spokesman was killed and another injured while attending a breakdown on the M4 motorway near Bristol last year.

Mr Eric Charles, chief executive of RAC, said: "Our main aim is to make our vehicles more conspicuous at all times, especially at night and in bad weather."

If the experiment is successful the RAC will abandon its traditional blue and white livery and patrol vans will be white with reflective material.

£300m research on atom smasher

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

The British Government is to be invited to join in a £300m research project that could confirm the third of Einstein's theories. That was his formula: "A uniform theory of fields force," designed to link gravitation and electromagnetism; the first layman's explanation of the mathematics appeared just 50 years ago in *The Times*.

The plan is for a new type of particle accelerator, more popularly known as an atom smasher, to be built in a tunnel of 30 kilometres circumference for the European Centre for Nuclear Research, near Geneva.

That branch of physics is usually referred to as *particle physics* because of the big scientific machines used in the experiments. But it is a subject in which there has been a flood of important discoveries in the past four or five years.

High energy physicists feel that a clear understanding of the basic structure of matter and of the forces that govern its behaviour is within their grasp.

There are more than 300 farmers licensed to sell untreated milk in Scotland, where Mr Younger said that there was no demand. There are only 18 in Northern Ireland, where Mr Walker said that there was a demand.

Ministers have faced months of intensive lobbying by farmers against a ban and by dairy processors in favour of it.

Mr Brian Knight, chairman of the milk committee of the National Farmers' Union of England and Wales, said: "Many producers and consumers will be relieved that their freedom of choice to supply and purchase this milk seems likely to be largely maintained."

The decision follows a long campaign by the union, supported by many consumers. The Dairy Trade Federation has claimed that 267 outbreaks of salmonellosis food poisoning between 1963 and 1972, 57 were associated with untreated milk. Ministers have decided to ban sales to institutions because they believe that those who drink such milk should know what they are drinking.

When untreated milk is sold in shops it carries a green cap to distinguish it from pasteurised milk. Ministers have accepted evidence from health authorities that the green cap is not distinctive enough, and that untreated milk should be labelled as such.

They have also accepted that it may be served in canteens from jugs or in glasses so that those drinking it will not realise that it is untreated.

The government has decided to start with the cost of installing pasteurising machinery on farms where the owners want to change from untreated to treated milk sales. The NFU insisted that such aid should be granted if the right to sell untreated milk was to be restricted.

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Last roll call sounds for Colditz survivors

By Alan Hamilton
Sonder Appel, the midnight roll call that so often provided the first intimation of a successful escape over the wire, was sounded yesterday for what may be the last time, and produced a head count of 114 formerly unwilling guests of Nazi hospitality at Colditz castle.

Former inmates of the elite German rest home for habitual escapers gathered from the four corners of the world at the Imperial War Museum in London for what was not the first, but was certainly the largest, reunion of old boys from a terrible experience, the true colour of which has been tinted by the varnish of romance.

The reunion was born out of a party given by the BBC in 1974 to celebrate the making of the television drama series based on the events of Colditz. A group of about 70 survivors was present at that time. One of them, Lieutenant-Commander Mike Moran, then determined to have a final fling with as many as possible of the 130 known to be still living, who were under the command of the Senior British Officer.

Stars came, like Sir Douglas Bader and Pat Reid, and forgotten heroes too, the Poles, the French and the Belgians. Mr Alfred Dreyer recalled how, in contrast to the inevitably sick portrayal of the television actors, the real-life Belgian prisoners had been reduced to slaughtering, grilling and consuming the dead cat.

Old men from Sydney and Nassau greeted each other for the first time since the American liberation of May, 1945, and talked of tunnels and jam alcohol. Behind the bonhomie the ever-present reminder that it was not as it was in the films.

"We were very cold and very hungry all the time," Mr George Price, who escaped unsuccessfully twice, said. "We all went down to help our usual weight, and stayed that way," Pat Reid, author, said. "We lived on potato gruel and scraps of vegetables."

But there were worse places than Colditz, so why should the legend and the comradeship survive? "We were the elite criminals of the Allied forces. If the Germans put all their attempted escapees under one roof they were asking for trouble," Mr John Hoggard said. "It is simply a great adventure story," Mr Reid added.

Among the guests were two former Senior British officers at the camp, Colonel Guy German, now aged 77, who took charge of the first intake at Christmas, 1940, and Major-General "Tubby" Broomhall, now 82, who took command in 1943. Unlike some other wartime old boys' clubs, the Colditz crew do not invite their German counterparts.

Commander Moran, the architect of yesterday's reunion, is canvassing support for a fourtieth anniversary reunion to mark Colditz's day of liberation, but there seemed to be a feeling yesterday that it may all have gone on long enough, and besides the members of the elite band are beginning, like all old soldiers, to fade away.

In four-and-a-half years of incarceration, only 10 British prisoners successfully made the journey over the wire to "Blighy". The first to do so was not present yesterday, having survived the rigours of a prison camp only to perish in another, less heroic war, under the very clock tower that meant home to the men of Colditz. He was represented by his widow, Lady Neave.

At the camp, Colonel Guy German, now aged 77, who took charge of the first intake at Christmas, 1940, and Major-General "Tubby" Broomhall, now 82, who took command in 1943. Unlike some other wartime old boys' clubs, the Colditz crew do not invite their German counterparts.

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Lady Neave, Airey Neave's widow, talking to Colonel Guy German.

Photograph by John Manning

Labour inquiry team to report in October

By John Groomer

After a meeting yesterday at the House of Commons of Labour's commission of inquiry, set up to formulate changes in the party organisation, observers were left in a state of surprise with which the three joint chairmen, Messrs Eric Heffer, David Basset and Michael Foot, had patched up the disputes within the commission and applied some cosmetic surgery.

It was all very dull, Mr Heffer said. "A question really of organisational nuts and bolts," was how he described the meeting, conjuring up the spectre of a sort of socialist "Frankenstein's monster" having life breathed into it on the operating table that Labour leaders had led us to believe was the battleground for the soul of the party.

The commission's aim was to get rid of Mrs Thatcher and her Government as soon as possible, Mr Heffer vouchsafed, and to that end he hoped its work would be completed in time for a report to be presented to Labour's annual conference in October.

First reports had been received from the three specialist panels under the chairmanship of Mr Mostyn (Moss) Evans, Mr Clive Jenkins and Mr Wedgwood Benn, set up to examine respectively organization and membership, finance, and political education.

There was some discussion of coopting still more members to the specialist panels, Mr Heffer said. The finance panel, which had been taking evidence since its inception, had provided the commission with an "informal paper", but no vote had so far been taken on that, or indeed on anything else.

Mr Basset, who at the press conference sat on Mr Heffer's right, which some thought significant, and on Mr Foot's left, announced that the whole commission would be going round the regions. "I do not know how I will find time for my union work," he said.

No one could say, whether the report would be unanimous, Mr Heffer pointed out. But at its summer session in Hertfordshire, from June 12 to 14, the commission would work in earnest to present bold, not to say united, front in preparing the report.

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Assembly call by Scottish Labour Party

From Ronald Faux
Perth

Embers of the devolution debate glowed angrily during the opening day of the Labour Party Scottish conference in Perth yesterday. Delegates overwhelmingly approved a commitment to Scottish independence, "with meaningful powers over the economy of Scotland."

That went further than the defeated Scotland Act, which would not have given the assembly such powers. The resolution, moved by the Scottish area of the National Union of Mineworkers and seconded by the Transport and General Workers' Union, asked for a firm commitment for a directly elected assembly to be included in the next Labour manifesto.

It concluded that devolution for Scotland was an extension of democracy allowing people to be more involved in tackling matters affecting the Scottish economy.

Mr Dennis Canavan, MP for Strathclyde, said, "devolution must mean a lot to the Scottish working man. He believed people now saw the relevance of an assembly. 'It might mean less to a man who lives in a big house in West Lothian and was educated at Eton. It might not have relevance for him, but for the ordinary working man it has.'

Mr Canavan, an arch opponent of devolution, had told the conference that a Scottish assembly was unnecessary and irrelevant. No one in their right mind, he said, could believe that it would be able to handle the difficulties now facing the Labour Party.

Even if it was Labour-controlled, it would not be able to hold out against many of Mrs Thatcher's policies on spending cuts, unemployment and trade union reform.

For five long, hard years civil servants who were both clever and able, and ministers tried to find an acceptable form of an assembly. "It might mean less to a man who lives in a big house in West Lothian and was educated at Eton. It might not have relevance for him, but for the ordinary working man it has."

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Council tenants given scope to switch homes

By Our Local Government Correspondent

The Government has accepted a plan to improve housing mobility among council tenants throughout England and Wales, with possible extension to Scotland and Northern Ireland.

The plan was produced by the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, the London Boroughs' Association and the Association of District Councils, at the request of the Department of the Environment, with the aim of facilitating tenants' moves between authorities.

Mr John Stanley, Minister for Housing and Construction, announcing the scheme during the debate on the Housing Bill, said each authority will make available a number of lettings annually for people needing to move into its area from within the same county.

Each district council, the London boroughs and the Greater London Council will make 1 per cent of its lettings available for people seeking to move in from another county.

Mr Stanley said that the scheme would be a "pilot scheme" and would be subject to a review after two years.

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WEST EUROPE

Italy to hold passports of 44 suspects in banking scandal

From John Earle, Rome, March 7

A Rome magistrate has offered the impounding of the passports of 44 Italian citizens in what is called the scandal of the "black" funds of Italcasse, the Central Institute of Savings Banks. This is a separate, parallel case to that of the "white" funds, in which 40 bankers and industrialists were arrested this week for approving huge loans by Italcasse without proper guarantees.

The "black" scandal concerns under-the-counter payments from a secret slush fund of more than 70,000m lire (about £28m) handled by Signor Giuseppe Arcaini during his 20 years as director general. He died last year.

The 44 who may not leave the country pending the investigations are less prominent figures than those of the bankers and industrialists held under the "white" scandal. It is called "white" because the loans were recorded on the books even if, as alleged, they should not have been made. The 44 include, however, Signor Serego Freato, for years a close collaborator of Aldo Moro, the murdered Christian Democratic statesman as well as five sons and daughters of the late Signor Arcaini.

The magistrates have, in this connection, applied to take action against some party financiers, or former treasurers, for allegedly receiving under-cover funds on behalf of their parties.

But the men—Signor Filippo Micheli and Signor Gaetano Patti, the Christian Democratic, Signor Augusto Talamona, of the Socialists, Signor Adolfo Battaglia, of the Republicans—and Signor Giuseppe Arcaini—of the Socialists—are members of Parliament and protected by parliamentary immunity, which can be lifted by Parliament only.

Remagen 'miracle' remembered

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, March 7

American troops advancing westwards across Europe 35 years ago pulled up at the Rhine and could not believe their eyes.

There below them was a railway bridge, inexplicably left intact by the retreating German troops, the only bridge still standing across the Rhine. Its seizure and the colossal shipments of men and arms shunted across it before the German collapse under the strain 10 days later considerably hastened the end of the Second World War.

Today, on the 35th anniversary of the capture of the bridge at Remagen, a museum was opened in the western tower which, with its companion on the other side, is all that is left of the bridge.

The museum fulfils a long-standing ambition of Herr Hans Peter Kürten, the mayor of Remagen, who for years has been collecting photographs, letters, books, films and other materials documenting the fight for the bridge. Among them are excerpts from the Hollywood film, *The Bridge at Remagen*, a highly dramatized account which was seen by millions.

Herr Kürten's dream only started coming true, however, about two years ago when the

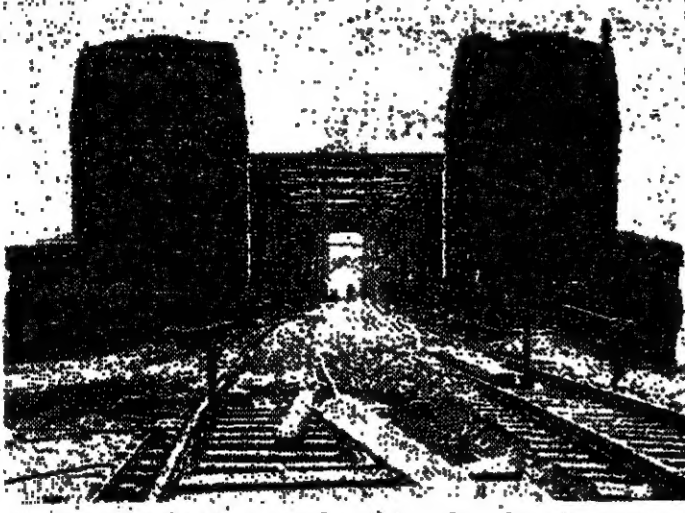
Signor Francesco Cossiga, the Prime Minister, faced a barrage of questions in Parliament today on the Italcasse scandal and on the resignation of Signor Franco Evangelisti, the Minister of Merchant Marine. Signor Evangelisti, a close associate of Signor Giulio Andreotti, the former Prime Minister, had admitted taking money from one of the main defaulters on a loan from Italcasse, Signor Gaetano Calitragne, a Rome builder.

Admitting that public opinion was preoccupied over the whole affair, Signor Cossiga, made a special point of saying that the Italian banking system was "fundamentally healthy, correct and solid". Urgent attention nevertheless needed to be given to certain juridical and operational aspects of it, if there were not to be "more grave consequences". If the criteria for lending were distorted, this could lead to "ambiguous manoeuvres and incorrect operations".

Signor Cossiga promised that the Government would act to fill the numerous vacancies at the heads of public sector banks, and would apply standards of personal competence and efficiency. (In the past the Christian Democrats have often been accused of putting party loyalty before competence.)

Signor Attilio Ruffini, the Foreign Minister, has been questioned by a magistrate investigating certain fringe aspects in the case of Signor Michele Sindona, the Sicilian financier on trial now in New York in connection with the failure of the Franklin National Bank.

A Christian Democrat from Palermo, Signor Ruffini answered questions about his links with the Sindona brothers, one of whom was arrested last autumn when carrying an alleged letter from Signor Sindona, who at that time had disappeared.



The Remagen bridge over the Rhine after American troops captured it 35 years ago.

central supports of the bridge—which was never rebuilt after the war—had to be dismantled because they hampered shipping. He had thousands of tonnes from the bridge encased in hard transparent plastic and shipped in various countries in the case of authenticity sold them to visitors or postal applicants throughout the world for DM40 (£10) a piece.

Huge blocks of the grim-looking black stone have also been sold to museums or as war souvenirs in various countries. In two years he has collected about DM70,000 to found the museum.

The museum was conceived as an effort for peace and reconciliation. Veterans' meetings have been held in Remagen

EEC import plan aimed at helping Third World

From Michael Healy, Brussels, March 7

Tighter controls on imports from the most competitive developing countries were recommended here today by the European Commission with the double intention of protecting the EEC's declining industries and creating more room on the Community's markets for other Third World suppliers.

This approach, the Commission said, should form the future basis of the EEC's operation of the generalised system of preferences (GSP), which was initiated in 1970 under the aegis of the United Nations conference on trade and development (Unctad). Most industrialized countries now apply it.

Although the scheme could have advantages for the less dynamic but emerging industrial economies of the Third World, such as those of India and Mexico, the developing countries as a whole may well regard it as being designed more to protect the Community's own industries than anything else.

The EEC's present GSP scheme expires at the end of the year and in its recommendation to the Council of Ministers, which will be turned into a more detailed formal proposal later this year, the Commission says that the new scheme should run for 20 years, with provision for review every five years.

Under the GSP the Community allows developing countries duty-free entry for their industrial exports, within specified limits and partial exemption from duties for their agricultural exports.

Under the Commission's proposal the competitive countries would be subject to new rules limiting the export to the EEC of "sensitive" goods likely to undermine the livelihood of the Community's own producers.



The Remagen bridge over the Rhine after American troops captured it 35 years ago.

where allied and German survivors have swapped reminiscences and discussed, above all, how the bridge resisted German attempts to mine it and bomb it from the air.

What General Eisenhower described as "the miracle of Remagen" now is generally thought, according to Remagen town officials, to have been the work of German officers who longed for the end of the war.

Apparently the German Army suspected this, too, because four German officers responsible for the bridge's destruction were executed on Hitler's orders.

Their sons and widows, as well as the first Americans to cross the bridge were invited along with other veterans to the opening ceremony today.

Pro-Moscow students lose ground in Greek elections

From Mario Modiano, Athens, March 7

Pro-Moscow Communists and Socialists again won a clear majority in Wednesday's Greek student elections but suffered a last year's reversal, they have lost ground to the "independents" who want the student movement free from control by the political parties.

The student faction loyal to the "Panhellenic Socialist Movement" failed in its effort to regain control which it lost to the communists in 1976. The two groups polled 55 per cent of the total vote, a loss of almost three per cent.

Together they will control 120 of the 500 or so seats on the boards of student unions. This is 19 fewer than last year.

The independents worked with groups of 10 Euro-communists and some far left candidates to increase their share of the total vote from 7.22 to 10.88 per cent. This won

them 65 union seats compared with 46 last year.

The Euro-communists also supported freedom from party political control won nine per cent of the votes and 53 seats of 15. The pro-Government students maintained their strength at about ten per cent of the total. They won 71 seats, four more than last year.

Just over 50,000 students voted representing just under half the students in Greek universities.

It is clear that the students who oppose party patronage and advocate a tougher, even militant attitude towards the state, were too poorly organized to pose a serious threat to the dominant factions who obey party orders.

However, the attitude of the rebels has gained such popularity that the partisan factions which will continue to lead the student movement may, in self-defence, adopt a harder line in their dealings with the Government.

The Pope has flu

Rome, March 7.—The Pope is suffering from influenza and on the advice of doctors cancelled his private audiences today as well as a visit to a parish church in Rome on Sunday, the Vatican announced.

Flight's cancelled

Rome, March 7.—Italian air traffic controllers began an indefinite "work-to-rule" today, causing cancellations and delays of international and domestic flights.

Bomb damages Soviet consulate in Berlin

From Greta Spitzer, Berlin, March 7

A bomb exploded inside the Soviet consulate in Berlin today, causing extensive damage but no casualties. The device was placed in a toilet in the building, which is in the American-controlled sector of the city.

The explosion destroyed walls and doors and smashed windows. After the explosion, shortly after noon, an Afghan organization claimed responsibility for placing the bomb. Police are investigating a man who arrived in an orange van and entered the consulate shortly before noon with two bunches of flowers, but it was not known whether he was connected with the attack.

The US mission in Berlin expressed regrets at the incident.

Brothel plan

Rotterdam, March 7.—The Rotterdam City Council has approved a plan to concentrate prostitution in floating brothels at three selected berths.

The plan, proposed by the Mayor and aldermen and approved last night, is intended to rid the Rotterdam area of prostitution.

At a dinner given in his honour by Dr. Francisco Sá Carneiro, the Prime Minister, Mr Jenkins said that negotiations for Portugal's membership

Nine promise maximum aid to Portugal

ship might be "difficult and hard". He praised the country's courage in facing such difficulties and the special part to play in the negotiations.

Much depended upon the joint action of member countries and Portugal during the pre-membership period.

The European Commission had a special part to play in the negotiations, as the representative of member states and

as intermediaries and interpreter of Portugal's position. Mr Jenkins also spoke to Dr. Sá Carneiro, the leader of the Socialist party and a former Prime Minister.

Earlier, Dr. Sá Carneiro addressed the Assembly of the Republic at the end of a prolonged debate in which the Government's policy was criticized.

Dr. Sá Carneiro stressed Parliament's approval of various economic and social reforms by the Government, particularly in implementing agrarian reform.

OVERSEAS



Home from Bogotá: Herr Edgar Selzer (left) the Austrian ambassador to Colombia, shakes the hand of Herr Willibald Pabst, the Austrian Foreign Minister after arriving at Schwechat Airport, Vienna yesterday. With them is Herr Selzer's daughter, Edith.

Herr Selzer was held hostage for eight days, with other diplomats, at the embassy of the Dominican Republic in Bogotá. The M-19 guerrillas who seized the diplomats released Herr Selzer because his wife was seriously ill in Austria.

My strongest wish is that those who are able to do something good will try with all

peaceful means to solve this affair," the exhausted ambassador said at the airport.

"Anything else could end in catastrophe," Herr Selzer said the hostages, including 12 other ambassadors, were all in good condition and were being treated well. "These terrorists will only opt for brutal means if some shooting starts," he added.

In Bogotá, the guerrilla leader who calls himself Commander One, said negotiations for the release of the remaining hostages could last for two weeks or more. He added that no more hostages would be freed for the present. The talks go on.—Reuter.

Hostages' move looks imminent

From Dan van der Vat, Salisbury, March 7

The process of forming the first Government of independent Zimbabwe gathered speed today as the spokesman for Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister-designate, announced that a Cabinet list would be produced by Tuesday.

Mr Mugabe's Zanu (PF) party and its coalition partner, Mr Joshua Nkomo's Patriotic Front, expect to complete a list of portfolios over the weekend to which names will subsequently be allocated. The two party leaders met again today to discuss details.

Mr Mugabe has still not had a second meeting with Mr Ian Smith, the leader of the white Rhodesian Front, which has 20 seats in the new Parliament, since their last one on Monday, but a new encounter is in the offing. The coalition is committed to including at least one white in the Cabinet, if only to reassure the white population, but not that he should be a member of the Rhodesian Front.

The date for the granting of independence is to be announced more or less simultaneously with the Cabinet's formation. The completion of which will make it possible to work out a timetable for the constitutional steps to independence.

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Zimbabwe Cabinet to be ready by Tuesday

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An encouraging sign of the general national desire for peace came today with the announcement by a British spokesman that yesterday for the first time

since the ceasefire 10 weeks ago, not one person had been killed.

In the guerrilla assembly areas the atmosphere is now completely calm, and the combined population of the camps has stood at 22,712 for the past four days. Today saw the last meeting of the ceasefire commission, chaired by Major-General John Acland, of Britain, and made up of officers from the Rhodesian security forces and the two guerrilla armies, Swapo and Zanu.

Mr Sam Nujoma, the leader of the south-west Africa People's Organization (Swapo) guerrillas, has appealed to Mr Mugabe for material help in his armed struggle to win independence for Namibia (South-west Africa).

The Angolan news agency, Angop, reported that Mr Nujoma had sent a message to Mr Mugabe saying that Swapo hoped an independent Zimbabwe would give "material assistance, and political and diplomatic support, to the people of Namibia and South Africa to speed up the struggle for the liberation of all southern Africa".

Congratulating Mr Mugabe on his electoral triumph, Mr Nujoma expressed the hope that the ties of friendship and brotherhood which always existed between the Namibian guerrilla organization and Mr Mugabe's Zanu would be strengthened.

Leading article, page 13

France asked to expel Angolan party leader

From Our Own Correspondent, Paris, March 7

France has officially been asked to expel Mr Holden Roberto by the Angolan Government. Mr Roberto, the leader of the National Liberation Front (FLNA) in Angola is said to be living in Paris and is seeking political asylum in France.

Mr Luis de Almeida, the Angolan ambassador, complained at a press conference about the presence in Paris of Mr Roberto, "confirmed by the French authorities", and about the eventual arrival here of representatives of the other main rebel group, Unita. These constitute a stain on the honour of Angola. The relations between the two countries were at risk.

Killers of PLO man jailed for 15 years

From Our Own Correspondent, Paris, March 7

The Paris Assize court today rejected the plea that two men who killed the Palestinian Liberation Organization representative in France were acting on orders as soldiers. They were sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment.

The men, Mr Husni Helem and Mr Assad Kaved, had been described by their defence lawyers as being "confronted by history, dispossessed of their lands without being defeated, but who knew that the only way towards a national identity was that of combat even with intransigence".

In August, 1978, they burst into the office of Mr Issidun Kadak, the PLO representative, and killed him with a grenade. They told the court that the PLO had been destroying the Palestinian cause.

Syrians move almost half of Beirut force to border valley

From Robert Fisk, Beirut, March 7

The Syrian Army withdrew its tanks and heavy armour from the outskirts of the Christian sector of Beirut this morning as soldiers of the reconstructed Lebanese Army took up positions along the main roads east of the city. For the first time since the withdrawal in November, 1976, Lebanese Army tanks were seen deployed within the city.

A Syrian withdrawal had been expected for more than a month. Early in February, President Assad of Syria said that he no longer wanted his troops "playing the role of policemen in Beirut. Although that was generally regarded as an attempt to concentrate the mind of the Lebanese Government and speed up national reconciliation in Lebanon, there was little doubt that the Syrians would eventually pull out.

Today's partial withdrawal was followed by the withdrawal of the last of the Syrian tanks. Then, hundreds of Syrian tanks streamed down the mountain road to Beirut to quench the last battles in the civil conflict that had seen more than 37,000 lives. Lebanese civilians pelted the young Syrian troops with rice and rosewater, a traditional sign of greeting and happiness.

Those civilians watched in silence from their windows and balconies this morning as dozens of Syrian tanks and heavy armour—including the "Stalin Organ" rocket launchers that have been used against Christians—were hoisted in the last two years—made their way out of the city and back up that long mountain road.

This time, it was the newly constituted Lebanese Army, in American-built lorries, that carried the rosewater and rice. Predictably, it was only the Christian sector from which the Syrians departed. They have

maintained control of the Muslim western quarter of Beirut and tonight, Syrian troops combat dress and steel helmets were seen on the streets. On the Lebanese state television station on the Rue Billie, the Syrians have erected arch of palms bearing the stern portraits of President Assad.

In theory, the Syrian withdrawal from the east is a sure of goodwill towards Christians who have resented their presence with increasing bitterness for three and a half years. In fact, Syrian troops were seen on the streets of Beirut after the Israeli attack through Bekaa Valley, the fertile plain that lies between Mount Lebanon and the Syrian border, probably account for the positioning of so many Syrian tanks. At least 2,000 Syrian soldiers appeared to have been involved in this morning's manoeuvre, and most of those men, their armour, are now in the hands of the Syrian army. At least 3,000 troops still in Beirut.

President Assad's critics suggest that there is another reason behind the withdrawal—a reason that says—as Syria's domestic problems intensify, the Syrians are looking for a way to get their officers back, they tend, become increasingly involved in corruption racketeering. They say a large amount of money is being sent to the hands of Syrian officers and that corruption was causing a win-win Syria's ruling Ba Party.

In two days' time, Gen. Victor Karam, the Lebanese Army commander, is expected to discuss an "Lebanese security plan" with the Syrian High Command, at least on paper, to the withdrawal of Syrian troops.

In Beirut, the Muslim community opposed the withdrawal on the grounds that the Lebanese Army is damaged by Christian officers, it was before the civil war.

Israel issues new protest to Britain

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, March 7

An Israeli protest, about the direction of EEC policy with regard to the Middle East, was reflected today when strongly worded protests were presented to both the British and West German Governments over their recent support for the Palestinian right to self-determination.

The protests were issued less than 48 hours after the French ambassador, who was summoned to the Israeli Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem to receive a similarly angry rebuff.

An Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman said that it was unusual for three such diplomatic protests to be issued in the course of a single week. He added that all had conveyed the conviction of the Government that support for the Palestinian self-determination was equivalent to support for a Palestinian state. Last month, the Israelis also sent a formal complaint to Dublin after Mr Brian Lenihan, the Irish Foreign Minister, spoke in favour of self-determination for the Palestinians.

Although France was the first to speak out on the subject this week, it is understood that the protests delivered to Britain and West Germany were more harshly worded because of Israel's assumption that these two countries were stronger backers of the Camp David peace process.

A senior Israeli official said: "It was particularly stressed to the German and British representatives that in view of their governments' support for the peace treaties, we would have expected them to refrain from using terms opposed to these treaties."

It was explained that these terms are both an obstacle to both the peace process and to negotiations currently in progress.

Today was the second time in less than a month that the Israelis have issued a strong diplomatic protest to Britain.

The last occurred when John Mason, the outgoing ambassador, was saying his farewells to Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, that occasion, the British Government was bitterly criticised for its efforts to bring a change in the wording of United Nations Resolution which would involve recognition of Palestinian rights.

The latest protest was directed to Mr Michael P. Charles d'Almeida, who is in Tel Aviv pending the arrival of Mr John Robinson, the ambassador.

In spite of the flurry of diplomatic activity, many Palestinian observers are convinced that the Israeli Government accepted the inevitability of a new EEC initiative on the Middle East. This is expected to come to the fore if the locked talks between Israel and Egypt on Palestinian autonomy fail by their last date of May 26.

The next round of minute talks on autonomy is to take place in Cairo later this month but there is little optimism in Israel-Egyptian or American circles about the chances of progress being made on the outstanding issues. This includes the future status of Jerusalem and the powers to be granted to the proposed autonomy council.

Another obstacle to agreement is the presence of Jewish settlements in occupied territories. In an interview published today, Mr Si Murad, the new Egyptian ambassador to Israel, said the settlements aroused "a feeling of disgust" in every Arab.

The Egyptian paper Al-Ahram, Egyptian envoy said that from contributing to Israel security, the settlements actually harmed it. Palestinians must be given the right to return to their homes, a federation with Jordan, federation with Israel or a state of their own.

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Giscard tour of Gulf leaves wake of profit

From Charles Hargrove, Abu Dhabi, March 7

More than a thousand members of the French colony in Abu Dhabi and their cheering, flag-waving, off-spring gave President Giscard d'Estaing a boisterous welcome yesterday, as he closed his six-day visit to four of the Gulf states, which has been an unequalled diplomatic success and important to France's economy.

British influence is still strong here, but France, a latecomer to the scene, as the President pointed out in his speech to his countrymen, has succeeded in carving for itself a small but rapidly growing share in the development of the four states visited by the French President. Abu Dhabi has the closest and most promising industrial, commercial and political ties with France.

French oil companies have a sizeable stake in the exploration and development of the Abu Dhabi oilfields, especially offshore, and in gas liquefaction. Other French firms have won substantial contracts for the construction of desalination plants, oil refineries, fertilizer plants and the design of the new Abu Dhabi airport.

The cultural and technical cooperation agreement signed in 1975 when Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan al-Nahyan, the ruler of Abu Dhabi and president of the Emirates Federation, visited France, gave a strong impetus to French language studies and technology.

Six agreements were signed as a result of the present talks which President Giscard d'Estaing and the four French ministers accompanying him had with Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan al-Nahyan.

They provided for the supervision and maintenance of oil production plants, including the creation of an offshore accident centre, the training of oil technicians, and engineers in France; and the creation of a research institute on the practical applications of solar energy; the training of medical students in French medical colleges; and French technical assistance for agricultural projects.

Abu Dhabi has given to France a guarantee of all the oil deliveries it needs. Lieutenant-Colonel Khalifa bin Zayed al-Nahyan, the heir apparent, declared today that this decision was taken out of respect for the role of France within the European Community "in favour of the Arab cause" and for its recent stand on Palestinian self-determination.

Undoubtedly, the French industrial and commercial breakthrough in the Gulf states has given a strong impetus to the pro-Arab policy pursued by the French Government since 1967. It was given an additional fillip by the President's official support for self-determination for the Palestinians.

But there are other reasons too. The French was told by Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan al-Nahyan, the ruler of Abu Dhabi, have a great capacity for coordinating the activities of government, finance and business in export markets, and the French firms which go out to conquer new markets are dynamic, enterprising and go-ahead.

Japanese plan new kill of 500 dolphins

Tokyo, March 7.—Fishermen in Japan have rounded up another 500 dolphins to kill this morning, according to a report by the Japanese government.

The fishermen, on Iki Island, had rounded up the dolphins yesterday and would kill all of them today.

The fishermen say the dolphins are eating their marine stock, mainly yellowtail and squid.

American environmentalists on the scene contend that it is overkilling rather than the dolphins which is the problem.

Mr. Saburo Okita, the Japanese Foreign Minister, said today that he would try to persuade the United States that the controversy over the killing of dolphins in Japan of different countries.



Mr Patrick Wayne (left) and Mr Michael Wayne appear at a Washington luncheon beneath pictures of their late actor father, John Wayne, who was awarded a congressional gold medal. With the brothers are Senator John Warner (centre) and his wife, Elizabeth Taylor, and Senator Barry Goldwater of Arizona.

Mr Ram cleaves Janata party as nine state elections fall due

From Richard Wigg, Delhi, March 7

For the second time in eight months, India's former ruling Janata party has split. Mr Jagjivan Ram, its leader at the January general election announced today that he was disassociating himself from it and would launch a new party.

Last July it was another party leader, Mr Chhattr Singh, who first brought down the Desai government by leaving and then launching the Lok Dal Party.

Mr Ram, aged 71 and twice India's Defence Minister, appeared to his former party colleagues and Janata workers in the country to follow him and participate in a founding conference of the new party in a fortnight's time. But he only claimed the support of 10 MPs today.

He denied his move would make the opposition to Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister, even weaker at a time when elections are due in nine important states, arguing that it was

impossible to form a united opposition.

Invoking the ideals of Mahatma Gandhi, Nehru and Ambedkar, the leader of the Harijans (formerly known as Untouchables) at the time of independence, Mr Ram said it was better to have a clear party of the ways "between those who prefer to support communal and caste tendencies based on religious fanaticism and those who believe in secularism and equality".

For good measure Mr Ram, who announced his move at a crowded press conference, said it was a mistake to have joined the Janata Government in 1977, when he broke from Mrs Gandhi. Many people believe the ultimate object of all Mr Ram's recent manoeuvrings is to return to her now that she is once again in power.

As if to underline that India's leading politicians attach little or no value to party loyalties, Mrs Gandhi today appointed Mr Virendra Patel, the man who lost to her in the Chikmagalur election in November, 1978,

on the Janata ticket, as India's new Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals.

He takes over a key economic ministry without having any previous central government experience, at a time when India is finding it difficult to obtain oil from world markets and import bills are eating into the country's export earnings.

A singing and scolding response came today from Mr Chandra Shekhar, the Janata president, who "thanked" Mr Ram for quitting. No one of significance would join Mr Ram, whom he described as a "dead wood".

Mr Ram had only been trying to harm the party of recent weeks, he added, emphasizing how he had been able to co-operate with the Janata Government for almost three years while in office.

Many people here who have felt sympathy with the veteran minister have explained his recent public antics as largely caused by his inability to get used to being out of Government.

Sperm bank criticized by expert

From Ivor Davis, Los Angeles, March 7

The controversial concept of setting up a sperm bank containing semen from Nobel prizewinners only has come under new attack by Dr Stanley Friedman, director of the largest private infertility clinic in the United States.

"I wouldn't want to sit in judgment to decide what women get what kind of sperm," Dr Friedman, head of the Tyler Medical Clinic of Los Angeles, said, referring to the "Hereditary Material Repository for Germinal Choice", established by Mr Robert K. Graham, a businessman. It is named after the Nobel scientist.

Dr Friedman, who lectures on obstetrics and gynecology at the University of California, Los Angeles, has run his bank since 1975. The donors are from all walks of life though there is a preponderance of university students. "There's going to have to be some supervision," he said. Right now, unfortunately, says Ivor Davis, Dr Graham did it's a totally unsupervised situation.

Mr Graham, who pioneered hard plastic lenses for eye glasses, has said his bank contains semen from three Nobel prizewinners, including Dr William B. Shockley, of Stanford University, winner of the physics prize in 1956. Dr Shockley says he favours the sperm bank idea. Three women have already received sperm from the bank, according to Mr Graham, although it is not yet known whether they have become pregnant.

Dr Friedman said the American Fertility Society's committee in the process of setting up guidelines for sperm banks. There were potential problems with having untrained people running sperm banks, he added.

When the sperm bank last week it started an international controversy with critics suggesting the "elitist" bank was comparable to Hitler's "master race" concept.

Mr Leonard Bromley, QC, and Mr Peter Gibson for the Crown v. Mr Richard Sykes as amicus curiae. The taxpayer company did not appear and was not represented.

MR JUSTICE WALTON said that the taxpayer company was incorporated in 1971 as an investment company with an authorized capital of £100 in 21 shares, which was shortly thereafter increased to £2,200. The original shares were issued at £100 each and the additional 4,100 shares in exchange for the issued share capital of two limited companies. The shares of the company of those companies were £24,000 and £12,000 respectively. Thus the taxpayer company acquired assets of £36,000 for an issue of £210 shares of a nominal value of £100 each. It created a share premium account of £31,717.

Group company elections made under section 136 of the 1970 Act by the taxpayer company were accepted by the tax inspector as from January 1, 1971. In December 1971, the subsidiary companies paid dividends to the taxpayer company out of pre-acquisition profits whereupon the tax-

payer company wrote down the value of its investment in the subsidiaries from £96,000 to £59,550. In consequence the shortfall assessment was made on the taxpayer company's profits.

It was accepted by the Crown that if the taxpayer company was obliged "by law" to create the share premium account, the commissioners had been justified in discharging the assessment. Accordingly the debate had centred on the true construction and effect of section 26 of the 1970 Act, which had been designed, following the decision in *Drown v Gammant* British Picture Corporation Ltd (1957) 1 All ER 101, to prevent a company from paying a dividend out of assets representing premiums received on the issue of its shares.

The shortest possible answer to the case and the one on which the commissioners had relied, was that the case was covered by wholly indistinguishable authority (*Harley v. Co Ltd v. R. v. Bromley* (1952) 1 Ch 134). Even Mr Bromley in his reply accepted the undoubtedly correct view that that case was indistinguishable. It would, however, be disconcerting to take the simple course of following that decision having regard to the case and the one on which the Crown and Mr Sykes relied.

When the case came on before Mr Justice Fox last year he had suggested, and Mr Bromley agreed, that the appeal raised wide and difficult issues and that, because the taxpayer company did not appear, an amicus curiae be appointed so that there could be full inter parties argument.

It was common ground that the words "imposed by law" in section 26(1) of the 1970 Act referred to affairs in which a company and its directors had no option. The words did not apply to any situation where a company was free to act as it pleased.

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When a motorist 'drives recklessly'

Regina v Murphy (William)

Before Lord Justice Eveleigh, Mr Justice Bristow and Mr Justice McNall

The Court of Appeal laid down the test for determining whether a motorist is guilty of driving a motor vehicle on a road "recklessly" within sections 1 and 2 of the Road Traffic Act, 1972, as substituted by section 50 of the Criminal Law Act, 1977.

The Lordships stated that a motorist is guilty of driving recklessly if he deliberately disregards the obligation to drive with due care and attention or is indifferent as to whether or not he does so and thereby creates a risk of an accident which a motorist driving with care and attention would not create.

Whether a motorist achieves the standard of driving which a prudent and careful driver would observe is a question for the jury taking into account all the circumstances and, particularly, the risk of accident.

An appeal by William Francis Murphy, of French, Shropshire, against conviction at Shrewsbury Crown Court (recorder: Mr J. Jeffs QC) for causing death by reckless driving was dismissed in a reserved judgment. He was fined £1,000 for three years and ordered to pay £100 costs.

Mr Michael Mander for the appellant; Mr Michael Mox for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE EVELEIGH said that the appellant was involved in a collision with a car driven in the opposite direction at night. The other driver was fatally injured. A police constable gave evidence as to the nature of the collision, the course of the appellant's car afterwards and other matters said to be deducible from road marks and damage to the vehicles. The appellant did not give evidence.

The substantial ground of appeal was that the recorder had erred in directing the jury that "recklessly" is a word in the English language which I have to know what it means as well as I do and you have to make up your minds considering the evidence as a whole, and the intention, and were given further guidance.

The appellant submitted that the jury should have been directed that the test was not whether the appellant was a subjective mental element, such as was indicated in *R v Briggs* (1977) 1 WLR 605, or *R v Stephenson* (1979) QB 695. He argued that the prosecution had to prove that the motorist had created a risk of injury or death, and that he had done so.

His Lordship said that doubtless a factor leading to the amendment by section 50 of the 1977 Act was the concern with the adverb "recklessly" governing the motorist's conduct which was under scrutiny. Contemplation of the substituted section 1, however, showed that the word was only completed when a risk materialised, not with a mental condition projected beyond that.

The law imposed an obligation to drive with due care and attention: section 3 of the 1972 Act. That was a specific reference in the statutes to the risk of

the severity of the direction in *R v Evans* (1963) 1 QB 412 about the objective view of the motorist's actions on a charge of dangerous driving arising from the wording of section 11 of the Road Traffic Act, 1930, which became section 2 of the Road Traffic Act, 1972, as substituted by section 50 of the Criminal Law Act, 1977.

Lord Mander had argued that the amendment, omitting as it did any reference to dangerous driving, lent further support for his suggested direction to the jury.

There was force in the argument, and their Lordships had concluded that, for an offence under the substituted section 1, there had to exist the mental element involved in the word "recklessly". However, it did not follow that foresight of the risk of an accident must have existed in the motorist's mind and then for him to have made a deliberate decision to take that risk.

In *R v Davis* (1979) RTR 318 the court stated that it did not intend to enter the area of subjective or objective test. That was a justifiable reservation. It was arguable that a driver driving with care and attention would not create a risk of an accident which a driver driving with care and attention would not create.

Whether or not a motorist was driving in defiance of, or with indifference to, the proper standard would usually be a matter of inference for the jury on the evidence as to the manner in which the vehicle was actually driven and the road conditions. But it would not always be so. There might be some other explanation, eg a mechanical defect or an unforeseen failure to observe a traffic sign and so on.

The mens rea of the offence lay in the deliberate or reckless driving, not in the failure to observe a traffic sign and so on. The mens rea was not a failure to observe a traffic sign and so on.

The original direction to the jury was in substance correct. The opinions could be held as to the meaning of the word "recklessly". The fact that the jury returned a verdict of guilty for further guidance showed that. However, the general explanation then given by the judge must have ensured that the jury understood their verdict correctly. They clearly did not regard speed as a conclusive factor and they must have concentrated on the manner in which the car was driven and the appellant's attitude to that. Furthermore, having regard to the nature of the evidence, the photographs and to the damage to the vehicles and their position, no other verdict was reasonably possible.

The appeal was dismissed. Solicitors: Registrar of Criminal Appeals, Smith, Son & Barrington, Telford.

Share premium account 'inevitable'

Shearer (Inspector of Taxes) v Bencal Ltd

Before Mr Justice Walton

Section 56 of the Companies Act, 1948, is mandatory and requires the excess of value of assets (which is the cost of the shares) over the value of the shares issued in exchange for such assets to be carried to a share premium account in the books of a company acquiring shares.

His Lordship, in a reserved judgment, dismissed a Crown appeal from a decision of a special commissioners discharging an assessment made on the taxpayer company, Bencal Ltd, under section 26(1) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act, 1970, on the basis of there being a shortfall in its distributions of £26,066 for 1973-74. He held that the taxpayer company was creating a share premium account following its acquisition of two companies with assets worth far more than the share capital of those companies had issued in exchange for the share capital of those two companies, had by virtue of section 26(1) of the 1970 Act been obliged to create a share premium account by law "from realising the required distributions".

Section 56 of the Companies Act provides: "(1) Where a company issues shares at a premium, whether for cash or otherwise, a sum equal to the aggregate amount or value of the premiums on those shares shall be transferred to an account, to be called the share premium account, and the provisions of this Act relating to the reduction of the share capital of a company shall apply as if there were a share premium account of that value." The words "from realising the required distributions" were added by section 26(1) of the 1970 Act.

When the case came on before Mr Justice Fox last year he had suggested, and Mr Bromley agreed, that the appeal raised wide and difficult issues and that, because the taxpayer company did not appear, an amicus curiae be appointed so that there could be full inter parties argument.

It was common ground that the words "imposed by law" in section 26(1) of the 1970 Act referred to affairs in which a company and its directors had no option. The words did not apply to any situation where a company was free to act as it pleased.

MR JUSTICE WALTON said that the taxpayer company was incorporated in 1971 as an investment company with an authorized capital of £100 in 21 shares, which was shortly thereafter increased to £2,200. The original shares were issued at £100 each and the additional 4,100 shares in exchange for the issued share capital of two limited companies. The shares of the company of those companies were £24,000 and £12,000 respectively. Thus the taxpayer company acquired assets of £36,000 for an issue of £210 shares of a nominal value of £100 each. It created a share premium account of £31,717.

Group company elections made under section 136 of the 1970 Act by the taxpayer company were accepted by the tax inspector as from January 1, 1971. In December 1971, the subsidiary companies paid dividends to the taxpayer company out of pre-acquisition profits whereupon the tax-

payer company wrote down the value of its investment in the subsidiaries from £96,000 to £59,550. In consequence the shortfall assessment was made on the taxpayer company's profits.

It was accepted by the Crown that if the taxpayer company was obliged "by law" to create the share premium account, the commissioners had been justified in discharging the assessment. Accordingly the debate had centred on the true construction and effect of section 26 of the 1970 Act, which had been designed, following the decision in *Drown v Gammant* British Picture Corporation Ltd (1957) 1 All ER 101, to prevent a company from paying a dividend out of assets representing premiums received on the issue of its shares.

The shortest possible answer to the case and the one on which the commissioners had relied, was that the case was covered by wholly indistinguishable authority (*Harley v. Co Ltd v. R. v. Bromley* (1952) 1 Ch 134). Even Mr Bromley in his reply accepted the undoubtedly correct view that that case was indistinguishable. It would, however, be disconcerting to take the simple course of following that decision having regard to the case and the one on which the Crown and Mr Sykes relied.

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Russians blamed for two invasions in Asia

From Our Correspondent, Kuala Lumpur, March 7

The Soviet Union came under heavy criticism in Kuala Lumpur today when foreign ministers of the Association of South-East Asian Nations and the European Economic Community blamed it not only for the invasion of Afghanistan but also for the Vietnamese invasion of Kampuchea.

The linking of the Soviet and Vietnamese actions was expected but came after tough negotiations among the ministers before being included in the joint statement issued today after two days of political discussions.

Earlier doubts whether both the Soviet Union and Vietnam should be named as aggressors were resolved in the affirmative.

The political statement was the outcome of three days of discussions. Officially, the meeting in Kuala Lumpur were convened to: initial an ASEAN-

EEC economic cooperation pact and a separate memorandum outlining the general principles of its implementation.

But much of the interest was on the informal political discussions, which while reviewing the general international situation, concentrated on Afghanistan and Kampuchea.

Lord Carrington, the British Foreign Secretary, told journalists tonight that the invasion of Afghanistan and Kampuchea undermined the threats posed by the Soviet Union in these regions.

"The Soviet Union poses a threat to both Indonesia and Afghanistan," he said. He was "not surprised" at the proxy intervention by Vietnam in Kampuchea.

The problem of Kampuchea, he said, was identical to that of Afghanistan.

But conference sources said that the Asian foreign ministers felt there was a European lack of understanding of their problem in Kampuchea.

Soviet troops police Kabul

Kabul, March 7.—Soviet troops were enforcing martial law today in Kabul two weeks after demonstrations against the presence in Afghanistan ended in bloody clashes.

Soviet soldiers and military equipment were much in evidence at Kabul airport, which reopened to civilian traffic yesterday after being closed by snow for three days.

Martial law was proclaimed on February 22 after a traders

strike and clashes in which hundreds were reported killed. Meetings of more than four people are banned, but an 8 pm curfew was eased by one hour.

The Ministry of the Interior said that security forces were striving to eliminate United States, Pakistan, British and Chinese spies and agents. The Afghan authorities announced last week that one American and a number of Pakistanis had been arrested. —Reuter

Pakistan meeting opposes closing of Afghan border

From Hasan Akhtar, Islamabad, March 7

President Zia-ul-Haq's suggestion to Soviet and Afghan government forces to seal off the borders between Pakistan and Afghanistan was strongly opposed by a meeting of political leaders here today.

General Zia made the suggestion yesterday, to refute an allegation that Pakistan was sending armed Afghan insurgents to create trouble in Afghanistan.

General Zia also suggested that Pakistan would be willing to offer inspection of Afghan refugee camps by impartial observers to ascertain that they were not bases for military training and activity. Alternatively he proposed that United Nations or non-aligned peace-keeping forces be posted on the border.

Leaders at today's meeting passed a resolution censuring the Pakistani regime's external and internal policies and demanding that instead of adopting diversionary methods, the martial law regime should take steps to restore representative government.

These leaders, most of whom had welcomed imposition of martial law two and a half years ago and had associated with General Zia's Cabinet before the execution of Mr Bhutto, the former Prime Minister, said Pakistan was passing through its most critical phase.

The leaders alleged that Pakistan's current foreign policy had failed to enlist the support of friendly nations in meeting the Soviet threat in Afghanistan.

Russian press discloses deaths in bus fire

Moscow, March 7.—Twenty-one people died when a bus overturned and caught fire in Minsk, the Soviet press reported yesterday.

The disclosure of such an incident was extremely rare for Soviet newspapers, which as a matter of policy do not report tragedies within the Soviet Union.

No further details of the accident, which occurred on March 3, were given.

Minsk, the capital of Byelorussia, is one of the cities that will host the summer Olympic Games.—UPI

Pakistanis rejected aid to protect nuclear programme

By Caroline Moorehead

Pakistan turned down the American offer of a \$400m (£180m) in military and economic aid in order to protect its nuclear development programme, Mr Asghar Shahi, Pakistan's foreign affairs adviser, has disclosed.

Speaking in Islamabad earlier this week, Mr Shahi said that the aid package was "substantially modified". It would detract from, rather than enhance, the country's security.

"There was also the suggestion," Mr Shahi said, "that the acceptance of the package could affect the pursuit of our nuclear research and development programme."

Mr Shahi's words came not long after a high-level military source in Islamabad let it be known that Pakistan was hoping to develop a thermonuclear (H-bomb) device sometime this spring, despite the persistent efforts of America and other nuclear powers to prevent more countries from acquiring the weapon.

This week's statement can only add to international speculation at the prospect that Pakistan may indeed be joining on joining the "nuclear club". It will

also lend weight to the 40 or so questions that Mr Tam Dalyell, Labour MP for West Lothian, has been hammering in the House of Commons day after day for the last couple of months on the subject of Pakistan, security

Saturday Review

Orson Welles

by Penelope Houston

Scott Fitzgerald once wrote that there are no second acts in American lives. It was a pronouncement, curiously beside the point of Fitzgerald's own life. After all, is *Tender Is the Night* but the novel of an almost unendurable second act? But it has always seemed almost excessively appropriate to the film-making career of George Orson Welles.

The Wellesian first act remains unchanged: the most dazzling, explosive and sheerly overpowering beginning in cinema history, a heavyweight arrival comparable in bravura and wallop to Muhammad Ali's first victory over Sonny Liston. The Wellesian third act is still in progress: quieter, deeper, more slow-moving and subdued, coloured with the regrets and dispassionate ruminations of advancing years. But the second act is the underdeveloped territory, the middle ground, the heavyweights and patriarch which should perhaps have yielded the richest harvest.

Welles has described himself as "frustrated": and in the light of the perpetual motion of his creative life, this might sound like a not uncharacteristic exaggeration. But to write about Welles is to encounter frustration: the critic finds himself speculatively circling that unfilled gap at the centre.

Welles' *The Immortal Story* (1968), has been likened to such films as Dreyer's *Gertrud*, Ford's *Seven Women*, Resnais' *Le Caporal Émile*; works whose qualities—the serenity and certainties, but also the fitful uncertainties—are reflections of their makers' age. The comparison has seemed apt; yet the shock is to realize that there should be no comparison, that Welles in his fifties had somehow caught up with the masters of a previous generation, and that we are ranking among the sages a film-maker actually of an age with such decidedly unpaternal figures as Lossy or Antonioni. But Welles' Mr Clay in *The Immortal Story*, and his almost grandly Falstaff in *Chimes at Midnight* (1966), are characters immorally experienced, old as time. There is something disconcerting about an artist's assumption of patriarchal trappings before his years properly entitle him to them; and it is part of the massive Wellesian paradox that if his great, late films of the 1960s suggest an artist rushing to embrace the certainties of age, his films of the 1940s glitter spectacularly with the quick of certainty of his youth. The uncertain years come in between.

Welles, of course, was by no means a youth when in 1941 he made *Citizen Kane*. A 25-year-old film-maker (he was born in 1915) would have seemed a young man in 1920, or again in 1970, and it was only in its own middle years that Hollywood seemed to become peculiarly the province of the middle-aged. Having begun his career younger than anyone else playing Shakespearean tragic roles in the nursery, acting and producing professionally while still in his teens, moving on in his very early twenties to the conquest of radio, Welles arrived in Hollywood as the Alexander of show-business, with only one world still left to conquer.

The *War of the Worlds* broadcast (1938), which sent New Yorkers running to the hills from the imagined Martian invasion, had been the crowning sensation. Ironically, *War of the Worlds* was in effect a fluke, and in its substance apparently by no means the most striking of his radio productions; but it set the Welles legend in a particular, inescapable atmosphere of shock and suspense. He was believed to be capable of anything; and a kind of superstitious fear of the artist as magician has perhaps haunted him ever since.

To establish himself as an American film-maker in the context of the 40s, Welles had to overcome this damaging reputation for unruly genius. His failure provides part, if by no means all, of the explanation for the missing second act in the Wellesian drama. But it's seldom asked why could conceivably have happened if Welles, in the 40s, had succeeded.

In the excessively conformist Hollywood of the 50s, with its docile acquiescence in the blacklist, its querulous alarms about the invasion of the reds, its audience and its general air of strained respectability, there could in any case hardly have been room for Welles. *Citizen Kane* was made just in time; if Welles had delayed his trip to Hollywood by as much as three or four years, it might never have been made at all.

By the nature of things, large elements of derring-do and sheer bravado must have entered into the making of Welles' first feature. And if so many television artists and laws had not seemingly been suspended on behalf of *Citizen Kane*, this should now be working powerfully against the

film. Nothing wears out quicker than the determination of yesterday to *épater les bourgeois*. But although the stylistic innovations of *Citizen Kane*—the overlapping dialogue, Gregg Toland's deep-focus camerawork, the heavy chiaroscuro and looming distortions, those round-the-neck angles that so exasperated conventional critics, the oblique and devious yet extraordinarily rapid narrative—have long since passed into cliché, one always re-encounters them in the film itself with the same astounding (and by this time astounded) exhilaration. Built mysteriously into the fabric of *Citizen Kane* is the excitement of its making.

The story the film tells ought to be a melancholy one: the betrayal of hope and promise and love and brilliance, the disillusionment of cold, creeping age and of power misused, Charles Foster Kane's progress from the buccannery adventure of running a newspaper to the petrified gloom of the marble halls of Xanadu.

But of course *Citizen Kane* never begins to feel like a depressing film: it is too dispassionate about its characters, too alert in its curiosity, too romantically buoyed up on its sense of possibility.

The strongest comparison, it has always seemed to me, is with *The Great Gatsby*. Scott Fitzgerald's novel from the other side of the depressed thirties. About *Gatsby*, as about Kane, hangs the fascination of the insoluble mystery. In both cases the works are powered by a strong romantic appetite, an American baroque style, a feeling not so much for the shattered reality as for the promise of a receding dream.

For Kane and *Gatsby*, dreamers of the American dream, are the creations of artists who must have shared in the dream on their own account, whose experiences had entitled them to believe that they were touched by a kind of magic, and who could afford a certain luxuriant fatalism on behalf of their characters.

"I owe it to my ignorance. If his word seems inadequate to you," explains it with innocent simplicity, Welles himself has said of *Citizen Kane*. And François Truffaut wrote of *The Magnificent Ambersons* (1942) that it was "made in violent contrast to *Citizen Kane*, almost as if by another film-maker who detested the first and wanted to give him a lesson in modesty." *The Magnificent Ambersons* is actually neither so different from *Citizen Kane* nor so modest; but it develops a side of Welles which was to recur in some extent dormant in his films until he came a quarter of a century later, to *Chimes at Midnight*. He described the latter film as "a lament for Merrie England"; and Welles is as aware as anyone that "Merrie England" has no time to the conjuring up of nightmare to suggest a lost Eden of happiness and innocence and splendour. The ball sequence, "the last of the great long-remembered dances", is a scene of dazzling exhilaration; but the lights are going out in the Amberson mansion, and the exuberance and wilfulness of the occasion are overtaken by that characteristic Wellesian regret for last things.

The snow sequence (that same snow young Charlie Kane had been dragged away from) similarly owes its charm and vitality to its evanescence. Remove the intimations of destiny, and the Ambersons would be merely a snobbish little clan clinging to empty aristocratic illusions.

Welles' achievement is in lending them his own romanticism, at the same time keeping a due, dispassionate distance; protecting Agnes Moorehead's loving, pitiful Aunt Fanny while seeing her wholly for what she is: bridging the gap, one might say, between the homely, silly, small-town word of commonplace and the despairing, darkening of the Ambersons' fortunes.

His career has been discussed in persistent detail, by many of the most brilliant writers; yet it's still difficult to build up an objective picture of what really went on in the years after *Citizen Kane*, of how far Welles had become, for instance, a highly symbolic counter (the king as pawn) in the battles of the RKO boardroom.

RKO was soon to be in the throes of one of those perennial Hollywood battles between derring-do and safety first. George Schaefer, who had brought Welles to Hollywood

with a contract allowing him unprecedented control over his pictures, was under heavy pressure. Eventually Charles Koerner took over at the studio, and the victory for commerce was proclaimed in no uncertain terms: "Showmanship instead of genius: a new deal at RKO." (One is reminded of the endearing remark attributed to Rita Hayworth at the time of her divorce from Welles: "I just can't take that man's genius.") Meanwhile, Welles himself had embarked on the extraordinary, doomed Latin American venture, *It's All True* (1942), a project which could be regarded as his *Que Viva México!* and which, like the Eisenstein film, harboured any number of built-in possibilities for disaster.

This multi-part, mainly documentary film was conceived as a contribution to the United States "Good Neighbour" policy and was precisely the sort of chancy commitment that studios entered into in haste, on a wave of patriotic goodwill, and repented of more commercially and at leisure. Lines of communication were over-extended; wartime problems over transport and equipment were inevitable; above all, an exceptionally difficult undertaking was embarked on at speed, to get the film unit down to Rio in February, 1942, in time for the Carnival which was to be one of the picture's themes. Richard Wilson, Welles' associate, has written that no script was possible until Welles had actually seen the Carnival.

It's All True collapsed under a combination of circumstances originating less in Brazil than in the boardrooms in America. Welles was far from the scene of action when RKO, disconcerted at preview reactions to *The Magnificent Ambersons* (and no doubt using the picture as a tool in the company wars), re-edited the film, shortened it and reshot the ending along somewhat less never countenanced by the director. In Rio, to quote Richard Wilson, "bills somehow weren't being paid for *It's All True*", and Welles had to fight for permission to keep shooting. And in July, 1942, back in Hollywood, the Mercury production unit was ordered out of its offices—to make way, with appropriately preposterous Hollywood irony, for a Tarzan picture. Welles himself returned to America a month or so later, to find that *It's All True* was not only not made, but another "lost" film had been added to screen history. Much of the footage survives.

Richard Wilson has pointed out the irony that "Welles was approached to make a non-commercial picture, and the whole melancholy episode, in so many ways a cautionary tale of movie-making attitudes, seems also crucially central to Welles' career." He had arrived in Hollywood on his terms, given a contract of dazzling promises; and he had been beaten on their terms. The contract had proved to be a licence allowing him one thing.

He had been able to make what is still arguably the most electrifying film in Hollywood's history; but he had been unable to save his more graceful, elegant second picture; and he had arrived in Hollywood on his terms, given a contract of dazzling promises; and he had been beaten on their terms. The contract had proved to be a licence allowing him one thing.

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In the circumstances, it was not surprising that the film had a certain wild-eyed quality—rugged, slaty, vaguely dripping with suggestion that the actors had just downed tools at the coal-face, eye-rolling performances from a cast generally much overburdened by their roles, a lowering, dishevelled storminess of mood.

Macbeth was a demonstration of will-power in action: it took three weeks to make, and his next Shakespeare film *Othello* (1952), took three years. In his book *Put Money in Thy Purse*, Welles' late, late Michael MacLennan chronicled the hazards and strains and derangements of a production protracted and interrupted beyond any normal endurance. Again, circumstances determined form: this was obviously not the *Othello* Welles would have made in more rational conditions, and if *Macbeth* was a rough sketch, *Othello* was a drawn-out dream.

But Welles in the 50s seemed like other film makers who had lost America without discovering Europe. The romance of *Citizen Kane* and *The Magnificent Ambersons* was partly, and powerfully, with the American past, and off from that base Welles seemed marooned and isolated.

His problems in making any sort of film, anywhere, for anyone, were such that he was also in danger of becoming the prisoner of his own legend, treated like some baroque monument which has gone out of style, worth three stars in the guidebook, demanding a detour, but no longer essentially relevant. His mid-50s film *Mr Arkadin* in itself seemed an uncomfortably symbolic venture. The attractive plot idea, of a mysterious, omnipotent mogul who hires a seedy adventurer to inquire into his own dark past, with a view to obliterating its last dangerous traces, assembled the apparatus of the queer and the labyrinth, only to turn the parade of witnesses into a riddle of riddles. Mr Arkadin himself is a blessed power fantasy; but the director, a mystery man for the sake of mystery, a creation out of display by disillusionment.

The unexpected thing, after this latest rhetorical exercise, is that Welles could possibly extract so much from the run of the mill thriller he turned into *Touch of Evil* (1958). Mr Arkadin has all the machinery; *Touch of Evil* has character, and Kane, Falstaff

and Quinlan, in that order, perhaps make up the great triptych of Wellesian roles. The gross, greedy-eyed Quinlan, a huge walking hulk of corruption, is a kind of Falstaff run to seed—devious, wilful and larger not merely than life but than anyone else in the picture. Around him in this splenic film, Welles assembled the vicious, grotesque, ornately malevolent inhabitants of the murderous little town which Quinlan rules by authority of his police badge.

Touch of Evil restored Welles briefly to conditions of Hollywood professionalism, but was itself made almost by accident. Charlton Heston, who plays the upright investigator who brings about Quinlan's comeuppance, had been assigned to star, and is said to have accepted in the belief that Welles, who had in fact only been engaged as an actor, was to direct. Universal let him do so, and the fact that Welles accepted the none too promising assignment with such alacrity might be taken as an indication of his vast frustration. The film was not a commercial success; and to this day Welles has still not completed another picture in America.

Welles' three films of the Sixties in a sense contain the range of his post-*Citizen Kane* attitudes. All three could be said to be concerned with the workings of fate, justice and betrayal. *The Trial* follows *Touch of Evil* logically as an expression of Wellesian misanthropy and spleen. It ends with Joseph K., brought finally to his execution, flinging away his murderers' dynamite and with excessive symbolism setting off the all-destructive mushroom cloud. *Chimes at Midnight* is autumnal and philosophical, and at the same time the closest film in the Wellesian canon to *The Magnificent Ambersons*; and in *The Immortal Story* Welles is reverting to an even older role of story-teller—though, significantly, where Isak Dinesen's novella emphasizes the power of the story as an entity, the Wellesian version lays its stress on the withheld authority of Mr Clay, the old Macon merchant who out of power, and the betrayal of his disbelieved-in fiction decides to turn legend into fact.

Chimes at Midnight is founded on two great Wellesian themes: the nature and price of power, and the betrayal of possibility and friendship. But if these express their emotional force, their philosophical con-

tent has been blended with Welles' severe, almost autistic morality.

Unlike Stanley Kubrick, who has stylistically, sometimes looked like Welles' closest heir, and who has achieved that total control over massive film-making resources which Welles has been denied since *Citizen Kane*, Welles has never seemed a film-maker for intellectual concepts or for ideas pushed to their limits in action. *Citizen Kane* probably covers a wider range of ideas than any other Welles picture, which could be taken as a clue to Herman Mandelstam's contribution as co-scriptwriter, and even there the vitality is in allusiveness and expression rather than in any particular depth of thought.

Otherwise, Welles has never apparently felt the need for a strong basis in intellectual logic. He has looked, rather, for characters who would reflect his philosophy—or perhaps more accurately he has required of his plots that they should express a philosophy rooted in character.

"Character," of course, must mean the character of—Orson Welles himself—as it operates both behind and in front of the camera. At times he has deprecated the necessity to keep acting in his own films, arguing that circumstances rather than choice has forced it on him. Arguably, he is a self-conscious actor, fated or privileged to be instantly recognizable and constantly seeming to look for a kind of escape into make-up.

Intellectually, he has claimed to distrust most of the characters he has played: "I'm against the Faustian outlook, because I believe it is impossible for a man to be great unless he acknowledges something greater than himself. It can be the Law, it can be God, it can be Art, or any other idea, but it must be greater than man. I've played whole lines of egotists, and I detest egotism, the egotism of the Renaissance, the egotism of Faust, all of them. . . . If I had to choose, I'd always choose respect rather than egoism, responsibility rather than adventure. And that goes against my personality, which is that of the egotistic adventurer. I'm just cut out to follow in the footsteps of the Byronic adventurer, though I detest that kind of person in everything he does!" Morally, in true Byronic line, he has adopted the principle that "I not only put for-

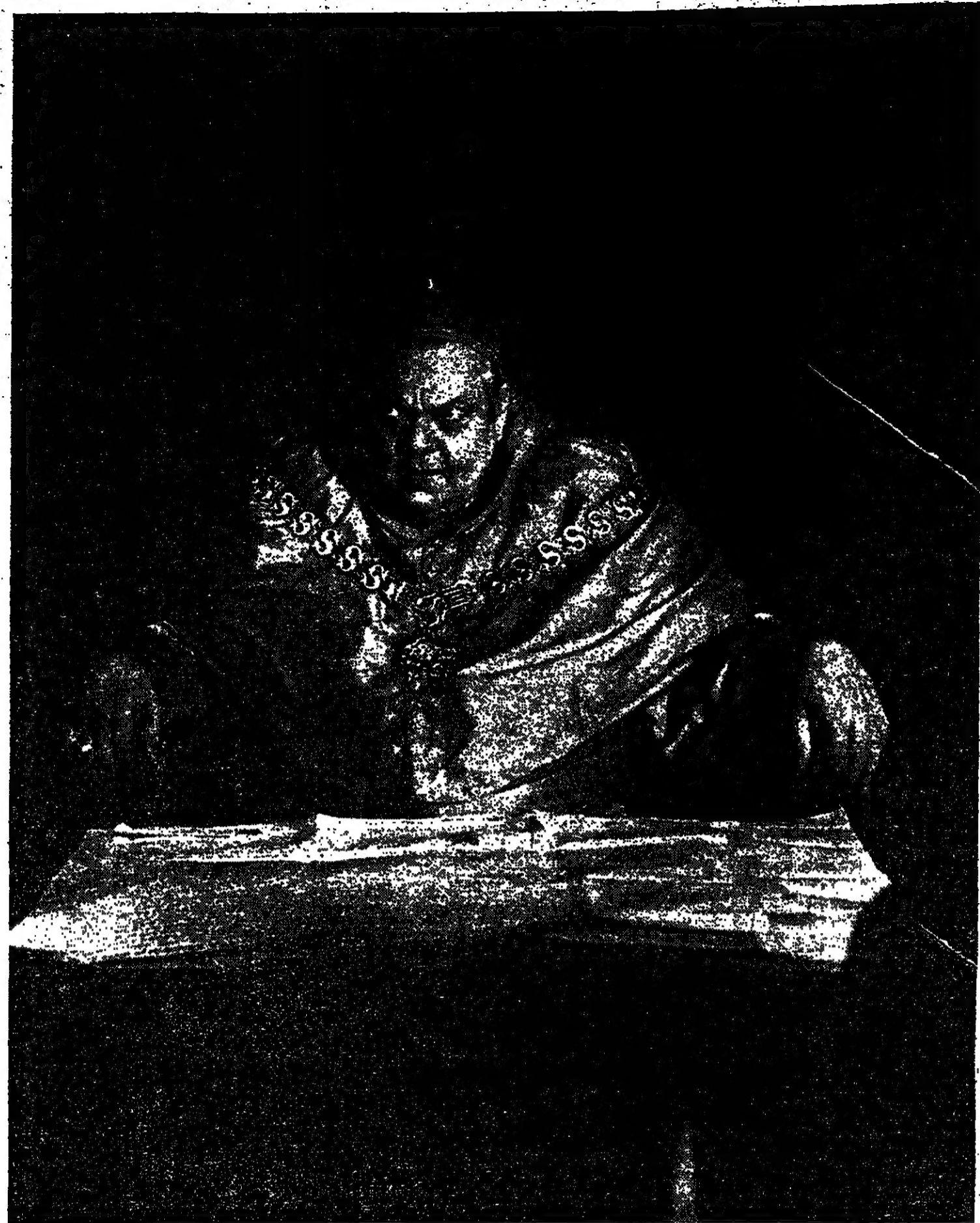
ward the best possible arguments for my enemies being as they are, but I put into their mouths the best possible justifications I can find for their point of view." It is an attitude founded in chivalry—and in the arrogance of chivalry.

Welles has also said, with total justification, that he is among those actors who must play the king. It is not merely in physique but in temperament that he towers over any landscape he occupies—his only escape route being into conscious buffoonery, the bear allowing himself to play teddy bear. Before the cinema, he could have been one of the great actor managers, remoulding the classical repertoire to his own scale; and even in the cinema, he has made his films facets of a continuing Wellesian drama.

The heightened tranquility, modulating into tranquility, proclaims the man: the area of the screen is an extension of his personality. And it is a personality which has been isolated in the cinema not merely geographically (since the early days, Welles has been effectively homeless as a film-maker) but temperamentally.

His characteristic theme is that of a figure larger than the usual run of men, in the act of affronting his destiny. Themes which have preoccupied his contemporaries—alienation, the search for identity, non-communication—have, sharply passed him by. The king does not descend to the psychiatrist's couch or the frigid suburbs. "I'm a man of the Middle Ages," he has said, "with certain implications due to the barbarity of America." Possibly these are all other ways of saying that he is a great romantic.

Bernard Herrmann described *Citizen Kane* as "a kind of Orson Welles. Hollywood sent him into exile, expelled him from Xanadu. And it is perhaps because an artist of his own work has been concerned with possibility and the receding dream that his film career amazingly suggests some great unfinished monument. It has been Welles' great gift, and perhaps his curse, to be at once one of the most influential film-makers of the century, and the cinema's great anarchist. From Penelope Houston's essay on Orson Welles in a Critical Dictionary of the Cinema, edited by Richard Rood and published last week by Secker & Warburg at £25.



Eric Arnold-magnum

JP 11/10/150

ENTERTAINMENTS

Shows and films at prices to students just before performance

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Group Sales Office: 01-379 6031

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THE ARTS

The Kozlovs make their dream come true

Valentina and Leonid Kozlov, who defected from the Bolshoi Ballet last summer, make their first London appearance together at a Festival Ballet Gala on Sunday week. Patricia Barnes talks to them in New York.

In the 19 years since Rudolf Nureyev's headlong departure from Leningrad's Kirov Ballet in Paris in 1961, there has been a wayward trickle westward of dancers and teachers from the Soviet Union. Many of these have made their homes in New York and last summer their ranks were increased by three leading dancers from the Bolshoi Ballet, Alexander Godunov and Valentina and Leonid Kozlov.

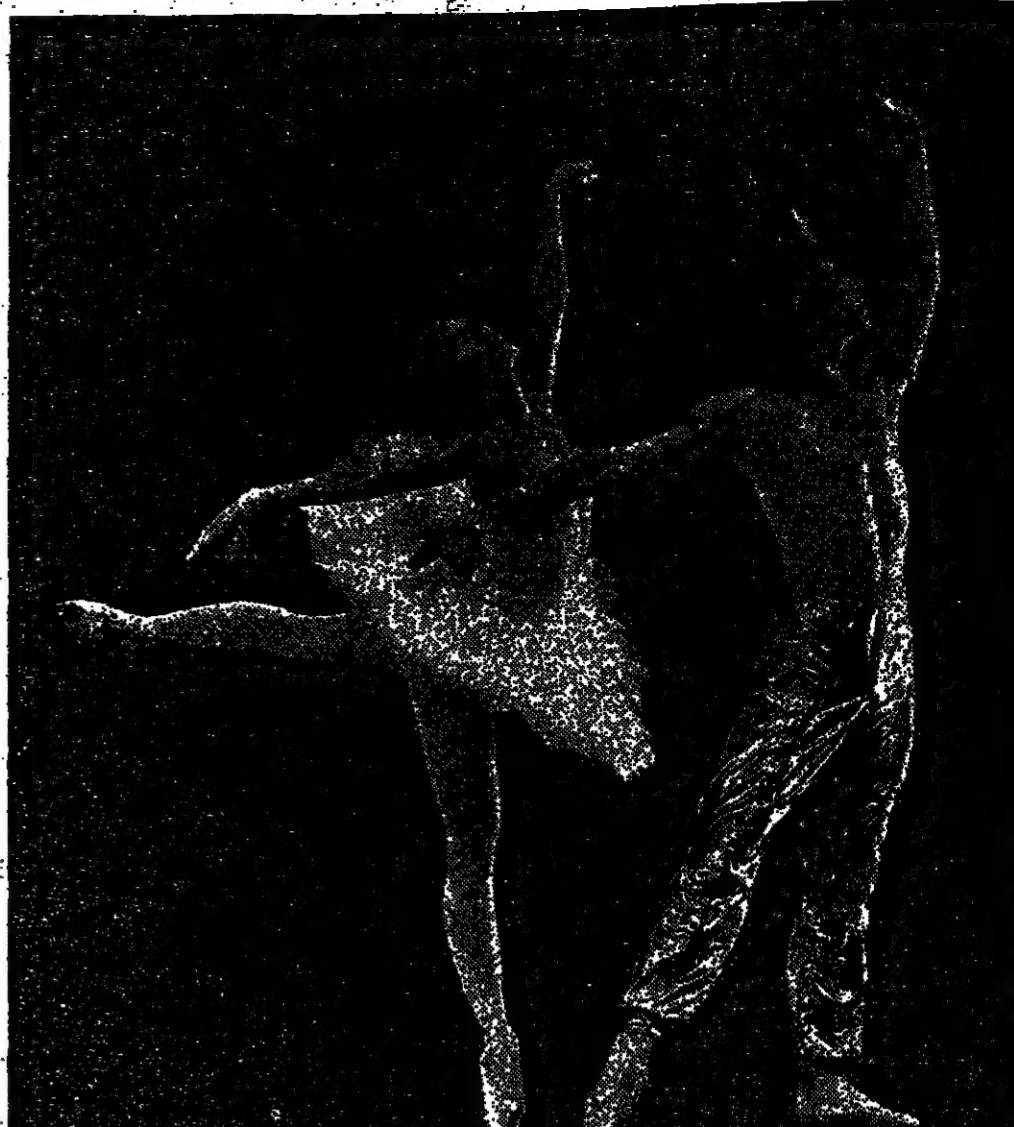
Godunov had for some years been well-known in the West, but it is only since their well-publicised defection that the Kozlov's names have had a familiar ring to the non-ballet-going public. They realize this and are determined that their notoriety shall not overshadow their achievements as dancers.

"We made our careers in Moscow by ourselves, by working hard—and that's the way we'll make it here," says Leonid. "We want to be judged simply on our merits as dancers."

The Kozlovs are comparative newcomers to leading roles in the West, but during last year's Bolshoi tour of the United States they had the opportunity to perform leads in several ballets, a particular honour being chosen to open the New York season in *The Stone Flower*. After Godunov's defection, the previously shared role of Tybalt in *Grieg's* *Peer Gynt* was danced exclusively by Kozlov, and he received additional exposure in the States by taking over all Godunov's performances in *Swan Lake*.

His wife, in the meantime, was being highly praised by critics for her dancing in *The Stone Flower*. Valentina has been dancing ballerina roles since the age of 21 and is, according to her husband, extremely versatile. "Like Maya (Plisetskaya) she dances Odette and Swan Lake," says Leonid, "but she is just as much at home in contemporary characterizations." Leonid himself, a strong technician with a flair for dramatic projection and an interest in choreography, partnered nearly all the company's first ballerinas during his 15 years with the company. His most important roles, apart from the classics, were the title role in *Grieg's* *Peer Gynt* and the lead in *Vinogradov's* *Astley*.

As a couple the Kozlovs are strikingly contrasted. Leonid, eight years Valentina's senior, has thick dark hair that falls casually across his forehead and expressive brown eyes. He is the extrovert, while Valentina with her pretty, typically Russian face and soft shoulder-length hair, the colour of corn, is more reticent and perhaps even a little shy. With her face bare of make-up she could pass for a schoolgirl, but the fine



Valentina and Leonid Kozlov in *La Bayadère*

done structure on closer inspection would do justice to a *Vogue* model. The day before the company's scheduled return to Moscow, the Kozlovs met for the first time in 1973 during an American tour. Leonid was a member of the Bolshoi Ballet while Valentina, still only 18, was with the Bolshoi School who were sharing performances with the company. They became inseparable and soon after their return to Moscow married. The next few years were happy personally, but professionally somewhat bleak.

"For some strange reason," explained Leonid, "I was refused a visa to travel abroad with the company on foreign tours and Valentina would not go without me."

In the autumn of 1978 a break came in the form of the opportunity of appearing in the United States with a small, mixed group of dancers and opera singers. The invitation came from the Black Theatre Alliance, for whom the group performed in New York and Chicago. The Kozlovs were well received in the West, and their first tour abroad during their American tour. Admitted to a love of adventure, Leonid says he had always felt throttled by the restrictions in the Soviet Union, and asserts that artistic freedom, the need to travel and, as he puts it, "to be in charge of our own destinies" were the primary causes of their decision to remain in the West.

The actual defection, dramatically conceived and executed with the help of a still anonymous friend, occurred immediately after the Bolshoi's final Los Angeles appearance, the day before the company's scheduled return to Moscow. The Kozlovs met for the first time in 1973 during an American tour. Leonid was a member of the Bolshoi Ballet while Valentina, still only 18, was with the Bolshoi School who were sharing performances with the company. They became inseparable and soon after their return to Moscow married. The next few years were happy personally, but professionally somewhat bleak.

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lancing hastens their flight with the dance world. "We worked one of the world's finest companies for many years," Leonid. "Now it is refused to be doing something for a living." Only one thing New York has their own a video machine and a television set. Not fluent in English, they speak their few words with a thick accent. Valentina explains they are attracted by choice of channels and Kozlov's particularly enjoys *Charlie's Angels*. They are equally enthralled by New York. "The intensity of the life here, it's like a volcano," says Leonid excitedly. "I walk practically every day enjoying the tempo of life in the streets. Only one thing so far disappointed me while they admire the dance and respect the teaching, miss the personal contact that professional dancers in the Soviet Union. As Struchkova, one of London's favourite Soviet ballerinas, Valentina's principal while Kozlov a pupil of the Bolshoi, was her coach, Nikolai Fadeychev. Now Sulamish Messinger has arrived in New York with her Mikhail, perhaps this is their coaches in the Soviet Union? Their eyes light up at the thought that will be answered.

When asked their plans, the Kozlovs reply that at the moment they are happy guesting. They are glad of the opportunity to see other countries, companies and dancers. While not discounting the possibility of joining a company in the future, they stress that free-

ly, in the assertions "Credo, credo". They responded promptly and surely to Mr Maazel's stringent demands, perhaps a shade more stringent than the score actually predicated, for powerful and abrupt contrasts in dynamic level and tempo were not foreign to those used by Beethoven.

The solo singing was not quite so consistent. This is an appallingly testing music, and at first the solo quartet seemed to have a tense, nervous wobble. But from then emerged first of all some really eloquent tenor singing from Kenneth Tiegge, and soprano, with no inhibitions about treating this music as though it had something true to say in terms of human emotion.

Marius Rinzler, however, remained slightly blurry most of the evening, though his sombre

attempt to steal her handbag she lost all her former energy. Overnight she became a victim, someone who could no longer help but needed help herself. The play then switched to the housebound Kate reading her diary for 1941 with flashbacks to the time. Here, one thought the play was going to run into trouble. Who, after all, could match Rachel Kempson? But there was Sherrie Hewson, a brilliant actress, and possessed of the same sort of strong face as Miss Kempson. The producer, Richard Brooke, and the director, Mark Bruce, did a marvellous job of re-creating the atmosphere of London in 1941, with Miss Hewson, as Kate in ARP uniform, falling in love with a grounded RAF navigator, played by John Vine.

But this was not the tale of a spinster soured by a failed romance. Kate's problems were more subtle, an insatiable pride which removes her from the small, everyday kindnesses in the end, however, she changes. This seemed to Peter Ransley's message, if anyone can change no man to the same person, one thought they have persisted in it fully. When Kate was no longer an old person block of flats she eventually recovered her former self when the other old people as her to be her spokeswoman.

I had expected some great ending, but this was an amusing, fine scene was pleasant and upbeat without being sentimental or melodramatic. You saw that it was the way for the play to end. BBC will be hard put to make Kate in its Play for Today series.

sends her students clueless in the night. Aurore Smith has cured every neurotic twitch the character, comic when given lines like: "In this city, it's a perfect balance between manic and non-manic; it's to one," and believable hysteria, but the weakness of the play is the importance of the city, then the foreigner who bedevils her.

It has travelled in the count season of so-called "The Orange Tree" Theatre in Richmond. It is smart, acted in Sam Walters' production. Given its funny lines, it is a shame that it mistakes sentiment for seriousness.

of such as a Polish janitor, an Italian womanizer, and Chinese grandmother who has mastered at least one martial art, his jokes are based on stereotypes.

They benefit from pouring forth in their original variety, with phrases in Italian, French, German, Chinese, Japanese and Polish coolly interpreted by a disembodied voice, but one thought is that no matter how diverse their background all his characters are saying the same thing.

To Debbie Wasba, the novice American teacher conducting the class, the babble is a kind of torture while her inability to communicate leads her to violent handclapping and gradually

that would say "I am choking to death on a raisin, would you please pound my back" because no one understands his language. It would also account for the bemused, bitterest sentiment of the play that could only come from a society that has a vain disregard for other languages.

Love and wonder are the words Mr Horowitz uses to describe his intention in a programme note, and there is that as well in his story of six people of different tongues coming together in a classroom for "12 hours" total immersion in English. There is always wonder that cultures manage to be so different, and comedy when they clash, but despite careful personification

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LA TRAVIATA
Verdi
April 16 & 18
THE MAGIC FLUTE
Mozart
April 17
THE TURN OF THE SCREW
Britten
Evenings 7.30.
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Philharmonia/Maazel
Festival Hall
Stanley Sadie
This was no ordinary concert but a celebration: a celebration in the first place of Lorin Maazel's fiftieth birthday (on which we happily and warmly congratulate him), and in the second of something much bigger. The concert was dedicated to the Beethoven Fund for Deaf Children, and consisted of a performance of that composer's *Missa Solemnis*; probably his most original work, written close to the end of his life, when he was almost totally cut off from the sound of the world.

So the concert became a celebration of the human spirit, of its capacity to rise above the

most terrible handicaps. This was emphasized by the reading beforehand—by Peter Ustinov, in a manner that tellingly caught the controlled passion of that document—of Beethoven's "Heiligenstadt Testament", in which in 1802 he set out his thoughts on the inevitability of the worsening of his deafness.

Those of us in the Festival Hall on Thursday heard a fine performance, broad, thoughtful, often intense. Above all it was superbly sung by the Philharmonia Chorus, who seem to be reliving some of their old glories. They are a large choir, but singing with the precision of a small, hand-picked one: their tone is sharp and clearly focused, their attack strong and sure.

They did nobly in the heaven-storming music of the Gloria, in the big impassioned

Miss Kempson played the 70-year-old Kate, a hard, emotionless woman, a former hospital almoner who spends her time doing good. At least she thinks she is doing good. In fact she is a bully who frightens the poor working-class people she comes in contact with in her self-appointed role as the Good Neighbour. In one telling scene Miss Dandy Nichols, as a recent and much distressed widow, came in for the full force of Kate's appalling unkindly help. Miss Kempson, with her head held erect, positively marching from one gruesome act of do-gooding to another, looked at times like a caricature but she never went over the theatrical top and became grotesque.

When Kate was injured in an

attempt to steal her handbag she lost all her former energy. Overnight she became a victim, someone who could no longer help but needed help herself. The play then switched to the housebound Kate reading her diary for 1941 with flashbacks to the time. Here, one thought the play was going to run into trouble. Who, after all, could match Rachel Kempson? But there was Sherrie Hewson, a brilliant actress, and possessed of the same sort of strong face as Miss Kempson. The producer, Richard Brooke, and the director, Mark Bruce, did a marvellous job of re-creating the atmosphere of London in 1941, with Miss Hewson, as Kate in ARP uniform, falling in love with a grounded RAF navigator, played by John Vine.

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PERSONAL CHOICE

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Daville

TELEVISION

BBC 1

7.40 Open University. Until close down at 8.30.
9.45 *Gymnast: Parallel Bars* (r).
9.50 *Mold-Coloured Soap Shop*: Comedy expert Della Smith and her sugary sweet, plus singer Barbara Dickson and, of course, compère Noel Edmonds.
12.30 *Crusaders* on the line-up is: 12.35 *Bob Wilson on football*; 1.05 and 1.40 *Indoor Hockey* (the Rank Xerox Club Championship); 1.20, 1.50, 2.20 and 2.50 *Racing from Cheltenham*; 2.10 and 2.40 *Boxing* (Laurie Whitby v Jesse Burton); 3.10 *Cheltenham Preview*; 3.20 *Radnorshire* (Llangrannog Pits Finales); 3.45 *Half-time scores*; 3.5

Rugby League: Salford v Widnes (State Express Challenge Cup); 4.40 *Film score*.
5.10 *The Pink Panther Show*: three cartoons.
5.30 *News*, 5.40 *Sport*.
5.45 *Wonder Woman*: The stolen deadly virus.
6.30 *Jim'll Fix It*: A girl spends a night in a haunted castle, thanks to a magic spell.
7.05 *All Creatures Great and Small*: James Herriot causes trouble at the greyhound track.
7.55 *The Little and Large Show*: Comedy from Syd Little and Eddie Large. Guests are Boney M, the disco set.
8.30 *Dallas*: Pam leaves town—and an angry husband.

BBC 2

7.40 *Open University*. Until 2.20 pm. Then from 2.45 until 3.10.
3.10 *Chopsticks*: Light-hearted entertainment from Justine Cash, Peter Wear, Johnny M. and Will Gilmour.
3.35 *Film: Ziegfeld Follies* (1944). Star-filled MGM musical, with William Powell, as the great impresario looking for some of his great stage successes (see Personal Choice).
5.20 *Horizon*: The *E300m* that lies in our dreams every year, and what is being done to stop the waste (r).
6.40 *Mr Smith's Indoor Garden*.

BBC 4

6.25 *am Shipping forecast*.
6.30 *News*.
6.32 *Farming Today*.
6.50 *Young Faithfully*.
7.00 *News*.
7.10 *On Your Farm*.
7.40 *Today's Papers*.
7.45 *Young Faithfully*.
7.50 *It's a Bargain*.
8.00 *News*.
8.10 *Sport on 4*.
8.45 *Today's Papers*.
9.00 *News*.
9.50 *Breakaway*.
9.50 *News Stand*.
10.5 *The Week in Westminster*.
10.30 *Daily Service*.
10.45 *Pick of the Week*.
11.35 *International Assignment*.
12.00 *News*.
12.05 *pm Money Box*.
12.27 *The News Quiz*.
12.55 *Weather*.
1.00 *News*.
1.10 *Any Questions?*.
2.00 *Play 1: Again*.
2.00 *Play 2: Brother, Brother*, by Frances McNeil.
3.30 *Does He Take Sugar?*.
4.00 *News*.
4.02 *The Zaphire*.
4.30 *Time for Verse*.
4.40 *Choir of Wales* (2).
5.25 *Week Ending*.
5.55 *Weather*.
6.00 *News*.
6.15 *Desert Island Discs*.
6.35 *Robert Robinson*.
7.35 *Raker's Dosses*.
7.55 *Play: Vivien the Blockbuster*, by Olwen Wynark.
8.00 *News*.
8.15 *Calculus*, review.
11.00 *Liechen Our Darkness*.
11.05 *Miles of London*.
11.15 *Signing On*.
12.15 *am Shipping forecast*.
VHF
6.55 *am Regional news*; weather.
7.55 *Regional news*; weather.
9.05-10.30 *Open University*; Music Ireland; *Open Forum*; *The Cell*.

RADIO

Radio 4

Nucleus New Materials; Raman Spectroscopy.
10.30 *Inside Parliament*.
11.20-12.00 *Open University*: Curriculum Design and Development; Decision-making in Britain.
12.55 *pm Regional news*; weather.
1.55 *Programme news*.
2.00-6.00 *Open University*: Maths; Linear Maths; 20th-century Poetry; Matrix Methods; Cognitive Development; Old Age in Poland; Locke, Hume and Necessity; Water Movements in Plants; Roots and Leaves; New Tonalities; What is a Function?
9.00 *News*.
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12.05 *pm Money Box*.
12.27 *The News Quiz*.
12.55 *Weather*.
1.00 *News*.
1.10 *Any Questions?*.
2.00 *Play 1: Again*.
2.00 *Play 2: Brother, Brother*, by Frances McNeil.
3.30 *Does He Take Sugar?*.
4.00 *News*.
4.02 *The Zaphire*.
4.30 *Time for Verse*.
4.40 *Choir of Wales* (2).
5.25 *Week Ending*.
5.55 *Weather*.
6.00 *News*.
6.15 *Desert Island Discs*.
6.35 *Robert Robinson*.
7.35 *Raker's Dosses*.
7.55 *Play: Vivien the Blockbuster*, by Olwen Wynark.
8.00 *News*.
8.15 *Calculus*, review.
11.00 *Liechen Our Darkness*.
11.05 *Miles of London*.
11.15 *Signing On*.
12.15 *am Shipping forecast*.
VHF
6.55 *am Regional news*; weather.
7.55 *Regional news*; weather.
9.05-10.30 *Open University*; Music Ireland; *Open Forum*; *The Cell*.

Radio 3

7.55 *am* (mf only) *Weather*.
8.00 *News*.
8.05 *BBC Northern SO*: Roussel, Haydn, Fauré.
9.00 *News*.
9.05 *Record Review*.
11.20 *Stereo Release*: Prokofiev, Pendergast.
11.15 *Bandstand*.
11.45 *Diversions*: classics on record.
1.00 *pm News*.
1.05 *Rudolf Firkušný* (piano): Mozart, Chopin, Brahms.
2.00 *Play 1: Again*.
2.00 *Play 2: Brother, Brother*, by Frances McNeil.
3.30 *Does He Take Sugar?*.
4.00 *News*.
4.02 *The Zaphire*.
4.30 *Time for Verse*.
4.40 *Choir of Wales* (2).
5.25 *Week Ending*.
5.55 *Weather*.
6.00 *News*.
6.15 *Desert Island Discs*.
6.35 *Robert Robinson*.
7.35 *Raker's Dosses*.
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8.00 *News*.
8.15 *Calculus*, review.
11.00 *Liechen Our Darkness*.
11.05 *Miles of London*.
11.15 *Signing On*.
12.15 *am Shipping forecast*.
VHF
6.55 *am Regional news*; weather.
7.55 *Regional news*; weather.
9.05-10.30 *Open University*; Music Ireland; *Open Forum*; *The Cell*.

Radio 2

5.00 *am News*. 5.02 *Tom Edwards*. 5.06 *David Jacobs*. 10.02 *Pete Murray*. 1.02 *pm News*.

Radio 1

5.00 *am* As Radio 2. 7.00 *News*. 7.03 *Playground*. 8.00 *Tom Blackburn*. 10.00 *Peter Powell*. 1.00 *pm* *Adrian Juste*. 2.00 *Paul Gambaccini*. 4.00 *Rock on Saturday*. 7.30 *Steve Wright*. 10.00 *Al Matthews*. 12.00-6.00 *am* As Radio 2.

VHF RADIOS 1 AND 2: 5.00 am With Radio 2. 1.00 pm With Radio 1. 7.30-6.00 am With Radio 2.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave (medium band) at the following times: 6.00 *am* *New-Jack*. 7.00 *World News*. 7.30 *World News*. 8.00 *World News*. 8.30 *World News*. 9.00 *World News*. 9.30 *World News*. 10.00 *World News*. 10.30 *World News*. 11.00 *World News*. 11.30 *World News*. 12.00 *World News*. 12.30 *World News*. 1.00 *World News*. 1.30 *World News*. 2.00 *World News*. 2.30 *World News*. 3.00 *World News*. 3.30 *World News*. 4.00 *World News*. 4.30 *World News*. 5.00 *World News*. 5.30 *World News*. 6.00 *World News*. 6.30 *World News*. 7.00 *World News*. 7.30 *World News*. 8.00 *World News*. 8.30 *World News*. 9.00 *World News*. 9.30 *World News*. 10.00 *World News*. 10.30 *World News*. 11.00 *World News*. 11.30 *World News*. 12.00 *World News*. 12.30 *World News*. 1.00 *World News*. 1.30 *World News*. 2.00 *World News*. 2.30 *World News*. 3.00 *World News*. 3.30 *World News*. 4.00 *World News*. 4.30 *World News*. 5.00 *World News*. 5.30 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Travel I

Cruising in a Soviet showcase



Crowded quayside in Istanbul

In the light of subsequent events, the notes I made during a cruise on a Soviet liner last year have a certain irony about them. I intended for some time whether an account of the trip would be worthy of inclusion in these columns, knowing the depth of feeling that often exists with regard to holidays and the Soviet Union. Under present circumstances...

However, the type of cruise holiday I sampled is being chosen by 1980 by British holidaymakers, although CTC Lines, who are the United Kingdom agents for the Baltic Shipping Company, readily admit that bookings are not as high as they would have expected under "normal" circumstances. As just about every other cruise company is suffering from a shortage of bookings, because of economic pressures, it is hard to estimate how much the present state of affairs should be taken into account. Who is to say what is keeping passengers away from the vessels of the Anglo-Russian cruise operator? Economics or politics?

The ship on which I travelled last summer was the 15,000-ton *Odesa*, which began life as the *Copenhagen*, being built by Vickers for a Danish company. Completed in 1974, she never sailed under the Danish flag, as the company went out of business. The vessel was bought by the Black Sea Steamship Company, renamed *Odesa* (after her new port of registry) and began operating in 1975.

Using Genoa as a base, she carried out a series of one and two week cruises last summer, some of which took her into the Black Sea and to Soviet ports. I sampled one section of such a cruise, flying to Istanbul to join the vessel after she had already called at Malta and Larnaca. As usually happens, the impression one first gets is of turning up at a party after all the other guests have had an opportunity to get to know one another. One feels something of an odd man out, at least for a day or two. On this occasion, such a feeling was quickly dispelled, as the ship's staff—the social staff I suppose one should call them—set out to create a thoroughly welcoming atmosphere. If anything, their efforts proved once again what a good holiday a cruise is for anyone travelling alone.

The fact that passengers were more or less divided equally between German and British nationalities, with a gesticulating handful of Russians and a clutch of Dutch to make up the numbers, meant that chauvinism always threatened to break surface. The staff turned this to competitive advantage when it came to persuading passengers to participate in evening food and games. Such participation is the mainstay of entertainment on many ships these days, although on *Odesa* it was supplemented by the efforts of the professionals on board, as well as the crew who, like all Soviet seamen and women, commanded a range of musical skills.

Only at mealtimes, and in particular around the lunchtime buffet table, was there any abrasion between the British and the German passengers, the dining room staff deriving joy from the fact that the service was plentiful and varied, the service very good, and one of the passengers to whom I spoke had any complaints on that score. Indeed, there were few complaints of any kind, although I had my own reservations about fitting into the life of a cruise ship. The ship was full—480 passengers—but one felt no sense of overcrowding save on certain sections of the sun deck. And, again according to all the passengers I interviewed, such numbers did not detract from the excellent service they enjoyed, from waitresses and deck stewards, from cabin and bar staff. This is as it should have been, for after all, there were close on 300 staff to provide that service. That is a significant equation, that ratio of staff to passengers, for it is one of the reasons why the financial arithmetic of a state run and state subsidised organisation will allow. Certainly it could not be achieved by any of the shipping companies—the Greek or the Italian, the British or the Scandinavian—with whom the Soviet ships are now in competition. Make no mistake that it is a competition, and one which the Soviet organisation fully intends to win—for financial and political reasons.

Apart from earning much needed hard currency, *Odesa* is a floating showcase to advertise the Soviet way of life. All manner of "propaganda" touches may be observed, although the word itself is possibly too strong to convey what is being achieved. The quality of crew uniforms is extremely high, and in that respect the girls who clean and tidy the cabins wear a "uniform" of T-shirts and American jeans. (So who would claim that jeans are unobtainable?)

All the cabins have outside views, incidentally, and all have private showers and toilets. In addition, the ship boasts a sauna and a gymnasium, a swimming pool, night club, discotheque and a cinema. First class facilities, too. (One of the most popular films shown during the cruise—repeated by popular demand in fact—was the James Bond thriller *The Spy Who Loved Me*, whose plot has the Soviet and British secret services co-operating to defeat the forces of evil. The crew, in particular enjoyed it.)

After Istanbul, *Odesa* sailed into the Black Sea to call at Yalta, Odessa and Constanta, before returning through the Bosphorus to call at Athens (where I had to leave her), Naples and Elba. The Soviet ports were of greatest attraction, giving passengers their

first glimpse of life ashore. Most took organized excursions (the coaches being supplied with interpreters, and various nationalities travelling separately) although it was possible, as I discovered, to travel independently. I would not judge the country by the brief glimpse I had of those two ports, though I am sure most cruise passengers would do so.

This year *Odesa* is based in New Orleans and, until the middle of May, is being offered as one ingredient of a fly, stay and cruise holiday. The 13 day inclusive arrangement, giving five nights in New Orleans and a week long cruise, costs from £732 according to current brochure prices.

Her place in the Mediterranean and Black Sea has been taken this year by *Galileo Galilei* 27,000 tons and of Italian registry, and a vessel upon which I have not sailed and therefore cannot comment. Whether the Italian brand of service will match up to that provided by the Soviet ship remains to be seen, as indeed does the prospect of her operating a successful season. The cost of two week cruises starts from £439, depending upon the style of cabin. Inevitably CTC has suffered the aftermath of the Afghanistan intervention, and the Australian based programme has suffered and learned recently that the Australian Government had decided to bar Soviet cruise ships from its ports. (To minimize the effect of this ban, CTC has chartered the 18,700-ton Greek vessel *Rasa Sayang*, as Australia is an important base in its programme.)

Looking to the long term, I see no reason why Soviet cruise ships should not enjoy great success. For reasons which are quite obvious, they are able to provide a high ratio of staff to passengers and thus a first class degree of service. During my time on board *Odesa* I met many British travellers who are old hands at the cruising game, and who have sampled the ships of many nationalities. Though there were a few minor criticisms regarding the price of drinks on board, all those passengers were full of praise for the ship and the way she was run. Quite independently, several compared her with ships on which they had travelled many years ago, equating her service standards with those "good old days." I have written here before about that nostalgia for cruising styles of the past. It would be most ironic if, of all nations, the Soviet Union provides such style in the 1980s.

A travel agent should have the CTC cruise brochures, including that of air/sea holidays and fly cruises. Or you may write to CTC at 1/3 Lower Regent Street, London, SW1Y 4NN.

John Carter

Bridge

Slam exploration

The least attractive feature of any system is usually proved to be the asking bid which has become attached to it. Bridge was not designed as a Question and Answer game like *Happy Families*. A player was expected to bid in such a way that he asked no direct questions and did not invite them. I recently saw the abbreviation DABs on a convention card without knowing its meaning; I have now learnt that the competitor was announcing that she and her partner employed *Directional Asking Bids* which now form part of the ACOL system. A DAB is a low level cue-bid in an opponent's suit inviting partner to bid. No trumps when he holds a partial in that suit (not, as formerly, when he claimed to have absolute control of it).

If bidding has proceeded:

North	East	South	West
1 Heart	2	3 Hearts	2 Spades

North, holding ♠A6 ♠AK10 85 ♠K105 ♠AK10, is seeking to have the hand played in Hearts or in No Trumps—preferably in No Trumps if his partner has ♠Q5 or semi-protection in the suit. North therefore bids Three Spades inviting his partner to convert into Three Hearts if he can provide half a guard in spades or if his hand is worth more with the lead up to it. South signs off in Four Hearts because the bid of another suit at the four level would be too encouraging.

A more entertaining version of a similar convention is the American slam exploration bid, known as DI which stands for either *Declarative Informative* or *Declarative Interrogative*. It has been defined as lying somewhere between the conventions which ask about specific controls in individual suits and conventions like *Blackwood* which ask about controls in bunches.

The Interrogative Four No Trumps can receive three C.T. responses—negative, encouraging, or positive. The responder who wishes to show the minimum bids Five of the agreed trump suit. If he wishes to be mildly encouraging he bids a control or value below the agreed trump suit. Any bid by the responder higher than Five of the trump suit is positive, promising Two aces and maximum strength. So the sequence could be Opener 1 Spade—Responder 2 Clubs; Opener 2 Hearts—Responder 3 Spades; Opener 4 Spades—Responder 4 No Trumps (asking). Opener's negative reply is 5 Spades; 5 Clubs is encouraging; 5 No Trumps demands a slam.

Needless to say, the convention can be used in various ways but is always asking for further information. Sardonious players among whom I include myself say that DI stands for "Do as you are told."

A more valuable convention is the "splitter" raise, which can be made by either partner and allows the responder to show a singleton or void in a side-suit at the same time as he is raising the trumps. It is more useful than the Trump and Control Swiss convention which works to 1 r-r-f when partner has strong trump support, two aces, and a singleton in the suit which he has used for forcing. Without the singleton, the response loses most of its magic.

The advantage of the Splitter response is that it is mechanical, since either partner can make a Splitter bid. For example:

(a) Opener 1 Diamond—Responder 1 Spade.
Opener 2 Clubs or 4 Hearts—Responder?

(b) Opener 1 Diamond—Responder 1 Heart.
Opener 3 Spades—Responder?

In (a) the Splitter would show a singleton club.
In (b) the Splitter would show a singleton spade.
The opener's actual holding might be ♠6 ♠AK106 ♠KQJ92 ♠AQ5.

Nicholas Hirst

But where does all this information end? The answer to that question seems to reside in the "Fragment" bid.

A Fragment bid is an unusual jump rebid, devised by one Monroe Ingberman of Chicago, to show a fit with partner and a singleton or void in the fourth suit. I first read of it in an American magazine, and it has received recognition in Kearsley's *Bridge Conventions Complete*. Unlike splitter raises, the responder cannot use a Fragment raise at his first opportunity, because fragment bids require the naming of suits actually held rather than short suits. The opener, when he has bid his own five-card majors was sometimes hard-put to find the answer for which he was looking. Holding ♠AQ863 ♠AKS ♠K197 ♠A3, he opened One Spade and if he received a positive answer he made clear that game was certain and that a slam might be in the offing. So the sequence might be:

Opener 1 Spade
Responder 2 Diamonds
Opener 3 Hearts
Responder 4 Diamonds

Opener's 4 Hearts showed good support for Diamonds, strength, but not necessarily length, in Hearts, plus a singleton in the unbid suit (Clubs). The responder can make fragment rebids, but not on the first round because fragment rebids require genuine suits to be named rather than short suits.

Fragment bids by responder

require, I am told, much discussion between partners who seek to employ them. It is easy to see how confusion can arise, by quoting from Bridge Conventions Complete.

(A) Opener 1 Spade
Responder 2 Diamonds
Opener 3 Hearts
Responder 4 Diamonds

Responder is promising shortage in Clubs.
Opener 1 Spade
Responder 2 Hearts
Opener 3 Clubs
Responder 4 Diamonds

In (B) where all four suits have been bid, Responder's jump to 4 Diamonds promises support for the Opener's last bid suit and a singleton in his other suit (Clubs). If the Fragment bidder rebids the suit in which he has announced that he was short, he shows a void. So, in answer for which he was looking, he shows a void. So, in answer for which he was looking, he shows a void.

Responder's Five Clubs would specify a void in Clubs.
My advice to any pair of players who seek to make their fortunes at duplicate is to leave severely alone all DABs, Dis, Splinters, Swiss Controls, and Conglomerate major suit raises, until they have arrived at a simple basis of partnership understanding. And even then they will probably ask each other for an exhibition of unusual intelligence at a critical moment.

Edward Mayer

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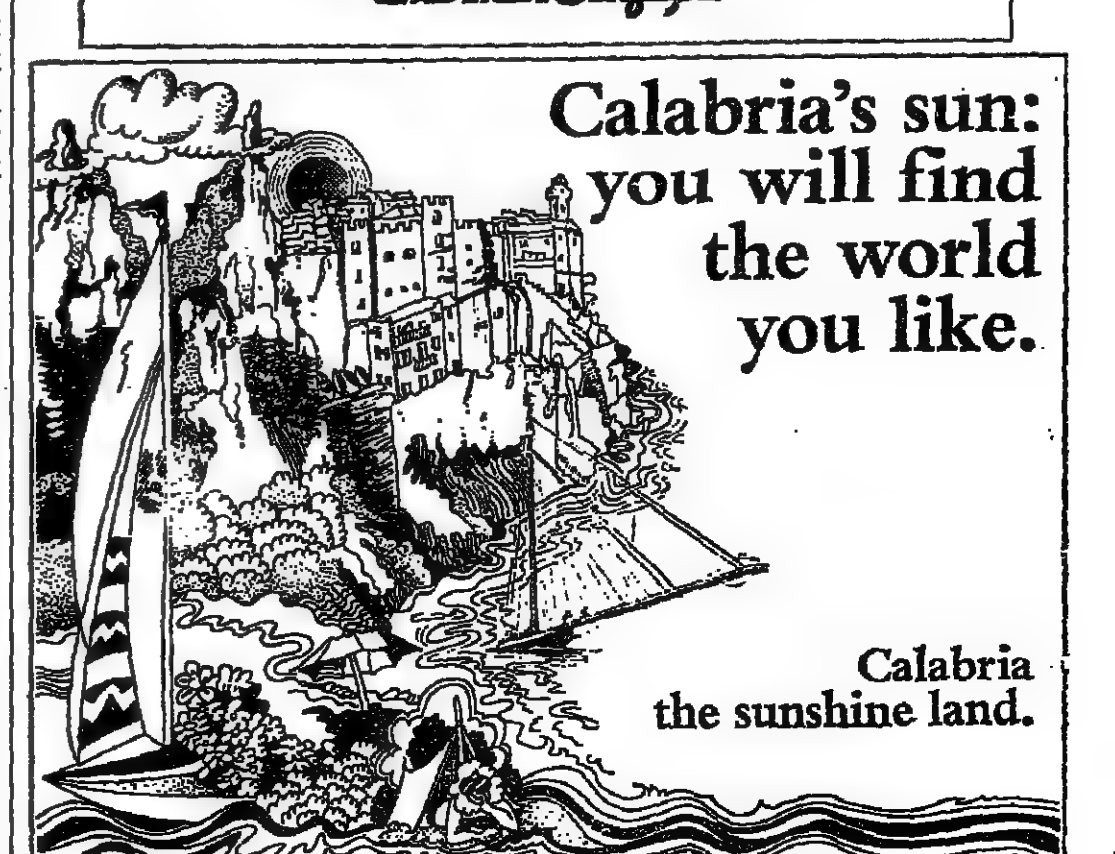
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Travel II

A far cry from the Alps

My introduction to Aviemore was a sign on the hotel reception desk apologizing to all guests for the total lack of water in their rooms with the added intelligence that there was no chance of the supply being restored before morning. It was a blessing to be too tired to care. An enterprising management managed breakfast with tea, but for some reason not coffee, before the burst was repaired and with the help of a cold supply in the slops for the public bar it was possible to set off for the ski slopes, feeling refreshed and ready for as fast a hurdle down the piste as a near beginner can manage.

It soon turned out that at Aviemore on a Saturday it is best to temper enthusiasm with patience. The first regular bus departs at 9.25 am and by the time it has reached the slopes the car park is already crowded, queues are forming for pickers and for the drag and chair lifts. Still by 11.00 am the first of the newly made friends enabled me to cope reasonably with the moderately difficult red runs by the end of the week. It was, then, with reasonable confidence that I tackled the same grade in Aviemore. Pride came before many falls. Bumps the size of small hills soon had me changing my ideas on my competence. An embarrassing tumble of a two-man tow-bar had us both toppling in the snow and giving up blue. The Cue, later by the end of the day, the piste and I were getting on better. A light snowfall overnight, a slight thaw followed by a deep freeze had by Sunday morning left the runs with sheers of ice alternating with patches of new soft snow. It was easy to see why the more difficult runs were almost deserted; left for the fitters and the foolhardy.

But for all that it was worth the trip. I can only make the one comparison, but skiing at Aviemore set against skiing in the Alps seems equivalent to sailing an inland reservoir and sailing on the sea. Even with my lack of competence it was possible to do all the runs which were open, and that was the majority, several times in the two days. The changing conditions and local quirks, as with inland sailing, present the challenge, but the small ski area makes frequent visits preferable to a longer holiday.

Nicholas Hirst

1980 THERMAL TREATMENT

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Gardening

Mowing time

For many years I have had misgivings about mains voltage electric tools and machines for use in the damp conditions of a garden. I was enthusiastic about low voltage machines operating from a transformer and also battery operated mowers. 110 volt machines; transformers are costly; and there are no battery operated mowers on the market here.

I fear garden machinery distributors in this country do not wish to sell battery mowers because they do not have electricians to deal with repairs and maintenance—or, since battery machines need very little maintenance compared with a petrol motor machine, they prefer to sell the latter as it will bring in profitable repair and maintenance work for years.

Either way, several million mains voltage machines have been sold in recent years. Mostly they are double insulated and so far there have been few fatal accidents with them—although for me, one fatal accident in a garden is one too many. Double insulation, of course, gives added protection but eventually all insulation may break down. And machines deteriorate, especially if they are kept in damp sheds or other unsuitable places.

I strongly recommend that if you have any electrical machine four years old or more, take it to a garden machinery specialist who has the equipment to test it for safety. In fact I think it might not be a bad idea if they

brought in a compulsory MOT test for electrical garden machinery.

New models of mowing machines mainly show minor improvements, although there seems to be fairly keen price competition among manufacturers here and abroad. It will be interesting to see if we are witnessing a move back to cylinder type mowers and away from the rotary machine.

The Morrison Olympic cylinder mower, a four stroke range in 14in, 16in, 20in and 24in sizes, is worth considering. The mowers are very reasonably priced and have some interesting features—one is a divided cutting cylinder or "real" which throws the grass more evenly into the large grass box; instant height adjustment, by hand with no tools, and close coupled rollers follow chiselling ground closely maintaining precise cutting height.

The new Vico Compact 400 two stroke 157 inch rotary mower, with a large grass box, single lever height adjustment and ball bearing wheels is easy to push and worth considering for smaller lawns. At £154 it is very reasonably priced compared with other non-self propelled rotary mowers. Ryco's new Minimo 25cm mains electric "air cushion" mower, at about £55, is easy to use.

There must be a demand for large machines on which the operator rides or there would not be so many on offer. They are perhaps not unduly expensive by today's standards and the larger machines, which are really lawn tractors will do

many jobs besides cutting grass, long or short—they pull lawn sweepers, and dump trailers, cultivators, ploughs or harrows.

Simple ride-on mowers range from the Mountfield 25in machine at about £450 to the range of machines and try to find the one to suit your garden and your pocket. I would suggest however a look at the Norlett Beaver Powaspade, either the petrol motor model at around £170 or the mains voltage electric machine at around £180. My leaning would be towards the four-stroke petrol driven machine.

Everybody who uses chemicals in the garden should have the booklet "Directory of Garden Chemicals" the fifth edition of which has just been published, price 80p, postage paid, by the British Agrochemicals Association Ltd., Alenham House, 93 Albert Embankment, London SE1 2TU. Some 200 chemicals are listed in one section under their chemical names and in another under their trade names. So whether you are interested in herbicides (weedkillers), insecticides, fungicides or other garden chemicals you can trace easily a product, what it does and the manufacturer.

All the member firms of the association undertake to abide by the Government's "Pesticides Safety Precautions Scheme" so the products listed may be regarded as safe for use as directed and of course it goes without saying that one should scrupulously observe the makers' directions and the advice contained in this booklet.

We are seeing a steady proliferation of garden cultivators—the build up of models reminds me of the space of machines that appeared in the 1950s only to dwindle to about half a dozen machines by the end of the 1960s. One wonders whether there is sufficient

Roy Hay



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PATCHING UP THE ALLIANCE

The western alliance cannot survive without an adequate level of trust, and understanding between the United States and West Germany. They are the two pillars on which the whole structure depends. This does not rule out disagreements. There have been plenty over the past thirty years. It simply means that the basic mutuality of interest must never be forgotten or wantonly jeopardised. Herr Schmidt's visit to Washington this week has been valuable in demonstrating that the foundations remain firm enough to carry the remaining differences.

Communication problems

The Americans were justified in seeing this view as too limited. The West Germans will be as threatened as anyone if the Russians come to believe they can use force with impunity, especially in the vicinity of the oil fields of the Gulf. If European defence must be saved at any price the price will rise steadily until Europe is forced to defer to the Soviet Union on issues involving its immediate security. But Mr Carter did not make things any easier for himself or the Germans by his maladroit handling of the situation. If the Germans lack global perceptions, he lacks European perceptions. He had not fully informed his allies about Soviet preparations for the invasion, which had been visible since October. Nor did he inform them about the warnings he had conveyed to the Russians. When the invasion took place he worked out a list of proposed actions without full consultation. Then he sent Mr Warren Christopher to Europe for discus-

sions, which was sensible, but no sooner had Mr Christopher assured the allies that the idea of boycotting the Olympics would be reviewed at leisure than Mr Carter appeared on American television with his own hasty decision. Then there was the muddle over the proposed summit conference which caused the French to climb back on to their Gaullist horse. It seemed to many Europeans that they were expected to rally automatically behind the American flag without even being asked their opinion. Since their faith in Mr Carter's judgment has never been strong it was asking too much. He reaped the fruits of this distrust.

A good deal of repair work has been done since then between Bonn and Washington, and Herr Schmidt's visit has put the seal on it. There are still differences over the Olympics but both leaders agree in their communiqué that their assessments of the situation in Afghanistan are close to each other and that the Soviet invasion creates a serious threat to peace and international security. At the same time they agree that in the present period of increased tension the framework of east-west relations built up over two decades should be preserved. Their aim is still to reduce world tension. Obviously these words can be seen as bridging two still divergent views but at least the bridge is there.

Moreover the Germans are not being laggard in practical measures. They already have a better record than the Americans or the British in keeping up their defence effort. The annual average growth of their defence spending at constant prices in 1971-8 was 2.91, whereas Britain's was 1.62 and America's an embarrassing minus 2.69. Unlike Britain and America the Germans have compulsory military service which gives them very large trained reserves. And it was their impulse which led to the controversial decision to bring new missiles into Europe against powerful Soviet objections.

It would be difficult for West Germany to do much more without re-awakening old fears among her neighbours. Nevertheless, Herr Schmidt has promised to keep this year's defence spending up to the Nato target of three per cent growth instead of allowing the small drop which had been envisaged. He may also take on more responsibility for naval security in the North Sea. At the same time he is stepping up military aid to Turkey, which was maintained during the American suspension. Additional economic aid will go to Pakistan.

DEATH TO THE DOLPHINS

The proverb about there being plenty of fish in the sea has been looking threadbare for some time. Kalamata and Grimby, Russia and Falmouth mackerel-fishers, are forever competing for shrinking catches, and we have seen cod and herring stocks fall along the coast already trodden by the oyster, from cheap snail to extravagant trout. The rivalry between man and man is hardly less intense than that between man and other species with a taste for fish, as witness the repeated upsurges over the culling of seals in Britain and Canada and the massacre of dolphins in Japan. Yesterday the Japanese Foreign Minister described the controversy over the dolphin cull on the island of Iki as an instance of differing customs in Japan and the West.

It is not difficult to see why the dolphin has gained so many protectors. There are few animals which so notably combine beauty, intelligence and goodwill. Stories of their haunting eagerness to make contact with mankind go back at least as far as the younger Pliny, and it is a recurring feature of these tales that human malice or clumsiness make the dolphin suffer in the end for its initiative. Considering how large and

diverse our own species is, and how prone to cruelty within itself, it is strange how wistfully, and almost guiltily, we hanker for friendly contact outside our own numbers. Recent scientific studies of the large and complex brain of the dolphin, and their animated communications, have reinforced the sense that this even more than other animals has claims to be treated in something more than a utilitarian spirit.

Such feelings come more easily to those who know dolphins mainly as television performers than they do to fishermen who meet them as rivals for the catch. Fishing at night with lamps to attract cuttlefish and yellowtail to their nets, they claim to lose nine tenths of their usual haul to dolphins, who soon learn to associate lights with easy pickings. Little research has been done to prove or disprove these claims (the continuing argument over the effect of seals on fish stocks around Britain shows how difficult it is to get clear results), but the ingenuity and hearty appetite of the dolphin make it hard to dismiss the charge altogether.

The sight of hundreds of them dying on a beach is a hideous

Contractual obligations in trade with the Warsaw Pact will not be broken, since the Americans are not breaking them either, but West Germany will go along with more stringent screening of exports for possible military value, which could mean taking vital computers out of industrial projects.

All this should absolve West Germany of the charge of not doing enough. But it may not entirely dispel residual fears among her allies that her special stake in relations with eastern Europe will always expose her to the temptation of putting these relations first. There are at least three replies to these fears. First, there is no sign of any serious trend in any significant area of West German politics to deny that the country is totally dependent on the United States and the western alliance for her security. Complaints about American policies and efforts to promote European initiatives fall a long way short of incipient disloyalty.

New approach needed

Secondly, the alliance should learn to make constructive use of West Germany's perceptions. An alliance like a democracy, needs the stimulus of different views. It needs a certain level of pluralism, and sometimes a division of labour. The Americans, especially in times of crisis, forget this. Yet West Germany has a fund of political and historical experience in relations with eastern Europe and the Soviet Union which can narrow her vision but can also deepen it. The alliance could be a beneficiary.

Thirdly, diversity is useful only if it can find expression through effective channels of communication. The crisis in Afghanistan has shown us yet again the shortcomings of transatlantic communication. The Nine have built up a remarkably successful machinery for continuous political consultation and cooperation. Information flows smoothly among the European capitals. For the Americans there is an informal agreement of 1974 which provides for consultations with the Nine through the Presidency. It has been adequate for much of the time but it operates on a case by case basis and is dependent on consensus being reached among the Nine. It does not involve the Americans in a continuous flow of information and consultation. Nor does it provide adequate standing machinery for rapid consultation in times of crisis. The present crisis should shake the alliance into a new look at this problem.

One but man's relationship with other animals gives rise to many similar scenes, and most of us accept that it is legitimate to need to give precedence to our own interests even up to such a point. The fishermen might be justified in their killing if it served their essential interests. Unlike most larger cetaceans, dolphins do not seem to be in any danger of extinction. Since it is reported that some 35,000 dolphins gather round Iki every year, the customary slaughter can scarcely have much effect on numbers. But equally it cannot have much effect on the nuisance.

What makes the culling ugly and futile is that more effective means of keeping dolphins out of the nets already exist: loudspeakers broadcasting their alarm-calls are apparently both effective and inexpensive. Japan has been slower than other countries in applying scientific principles of conservation to fisheries. The dolphin cull (and the official support for it represented by the bounty paid for each one killed) should not be shrugged off as custom: if it cannot be justified on good evidence as a necessary act of marine husbandry, it should be prohibited.

A solution from Erewhon?

From Mr Ray Whitney, MP for Wycombe (Conservative)

Sir, The bankers are embarrassed about their high profits and many of us are worried about the effects of the economies on the BBC orchestras (although some surgery is probably justified).

Surely we can find a way to protect the bankers from their embarrassment and our cultural life from impoverishment? Yours sincerely, RAY WHITNEY, House of Commons, March 6.

From Mr David Head

Sir, The week in which the BBC announced some of its proposed cuts over the *Rock and Pop Awards* broadcast from the Café Royal on BBC1 (February 27). Absent winners—one lot in Hong Kong, the other in the United States—had their awards, together with a disc jockey to do the honours, flown out to them. Furthermore, it was the BBC's publicist well aware, I am equally sure that this all too frequently disregarded public would include neither the doomed orchestras nor Wagner's *Walk in the Sun* nor the list of BBC services.

Yours sincerely, DAVID HEAD, Lecturer in German, University of Bath, Claverton Down, Bath, March 3.

Slaughter of dolphins

From Mr R. J. Hopkins
Sir, The brutal massacre of some 500 dolphins trapped by Japanese fishermen in a bay at Iki Island (report, February 29) must have shocked and saddened many people. There will be a great deal of sympathy for those who, revolted by such cruel butchery, were impelled to intervene, no doubt at some risk to themselves, to release a number of the trapped animals.

The dolphins have been accused of depleting stocks of squid and yellowtail tuna and local fishermen claim an increase in their numbers. But such claims are apparently based on uncorroborated sightings and are not supported by rational scientific observations. Even if they were substantiated surely the cruel killing of these friendly and intelligent creatures by such odious methods as clubbing and knifing cannot possibly be justified. Marine catches are governed by many factors and it is unfortunate that knowledge regarding the complexities of the marine ecosystem is so poor. No simple common-sense can be made between fluctuations in catches and numbers of dolphins. Humanity demands the suspension of this killing pending a thorough and expert survey of the situation, both in regard to the allegation that the dolphins are a significant threat to fish stocks as well as the methods used.

Yours faithfully, R. J. HOPKINS, Executive Director, Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Causeway, Horsbarn, Sussex, March 3.

Mysticism

From Mrs Hilary Wakeman
Sir, Writing about the resurgence of orthodox Christian mysticism in the aftermath of fashionable pseudo-mysticism, your religious affairs correspondent refers (February 25) to the beginnings of a movement, based on the teachings of the medieval anchorite Julian of Norwich, which has been started by the Dean of St Paul's.

The movement he mentions is, presumably, the Julian Meetings. Its rapid growth in the seven years since it began is proof of its contention that there is a spiritual vacuum which has not been met by the contemporary Christian Church. The movement seeks to foster the teaching and practice of mystical prayer, or contemplative meditation, within the Christian tradition, while accepting with discrimination the influence of other mystical traditions, as Buddhism and Sufism. One of its strengths is that Catholics, Anglicans, Quakers, Methodists and others meet on common ground, mystical prayer transcending denominational distinctions. There are now over 50 informal groups in Britain and beginnings overseas.

The Dean of St Paul's is not a founder of the Julian Meetings, although he is known and appreciated as a Julian enthusiast. Since there are no knowledge, no similar movements based on Mother Julian's teachings, we can only assume that the Dean and JM have been erroneously amalgamated. Yours sincerely, HILARY WAKEMAN, Convenor, Julian Meetings, Biffingford Lodge, Dereham, Norfolk, February 28.

Closed doors

From Mr John M. Rose
Sir, Last Sunday my nephew was born in a hospital in Kent. His father, my brother, now in his forties, had asked for a child throughout his married life. On Monday morning the child was born. Bowed in his grief, my brother sought the prayerful sanctuary of a church on his return home from the hospital on Monday. He could not gain entry to one. Once more the Church had locked its doors against the needs of a young man who had once again the need to pray. Yours truly, JOHN M. ROSE, 46 Claremont Road, Highgate, N6, March 5.

Priorities in education

From Lord Butler of Saffron Walden, CH

Sir, I have not written to you for decades but there are certain misapprehensions in Ronald Butt's article of today (March 5) which I should like to answer. The suggestion I made in my speech on the second reading of the Education (No. 2) Bill in the House of Lords was to the effect that the Government could save money on the assisted places scheme and thus delete clause 23 imposing charges on rural transport for children. I acknowledge the Government's motives for introducing the assisted places scheme owing to their disappointment about the destruction of the direct grant schools. I pointed out that I had already spoken against the late government's action in this respect. I thought that the assisted scheme had been truncated. For myself I have been interested in the possibility of children going to the independent schools for many years but I have always thought the cost was the main difficulty. Moreover I emphasized the need to spend money on improving the state system. To show my interest I made the decision at Felstead where I was a governor for 40 years to introduce some "Butler scholars" from the maintained system. As for Mr Butt's last sentence, he may be relieved to know that about 10 of my many grandchildren have entered the state system. Yours sincerely, LORD BUTLER, House of Lords, March 6.

From Lord Stewart of Fulham, CH

Sir, Mr Ronald Butt writes (March 6) about "the different types of secondary school established by the 1944 Act" and goes on to say that this Act "ushered in the selected secondary system". Nothing is said or implied in the 1944 Act about different types of secondary school. The Act required that pupils should be educated in accordance with their aptitude and ability; whether this should be done in selective or comprehensive schools was left open, as far as the Act was concerned, but the preceding White

Changes in divorce law

From Lady Harris of Greenwich and Mrs Hilary Halpin

Sir, We were interested to read the report in your columns (February 27) of the visit of the all-party Group for Divorce Reform to the Lord Chancellor, Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone.

As professional counsellors working with people who are facing the dissolution of their marriage, our observations may be relevant to the current discussion. The recent divorce law reforms, whilst undoubtedly necessary to remedy the serious unsatisfactory state of affairs, have created a complex and confusing situation. No-fault laws appear to affront the ordinary person's sense of natural justice when it comes to the settlement of disputes over money and children. The ensuing bitterness all too often is transferred into the legal and judicial process, and the dissatisfaction now being so loudly expressed is demonstrating the extent to which all parties involved in a divorce feel that insult has been added to injury in their particular case.

Working as we do in the field of human relationships, we feel entitled to query whether further legislation would effectively deal with the existing unsatisfactory situation. Our reasons for establishing the Divorce Counselling and Advisory Service arose from our concern that the technical side of dissolving a marriage was now relatively simple

Paper, published by the wartime coalition government stressed emphatically that there was nothing to be said in favour of selection at 11.

Selection, so far from being ushered in by the 1944 Act, had long been in use to determine which pupils should get free places at grammar schools and which should go to "senior elementary" schools. After the war, some local authorities simply went on using selection and renamed the "senior elementary" schools as "secondary moderns". Others, from the start, adopted the comprehensive principle.

Mr Butt goes on to say that it will be cheaper in terms of real cost to send a child on full fees to a former direct grant school than to keep him in the state system. If Mr Butt can persuade the Government to believe this, perhaps they will accept the Opposition amendment limiting the fees that can be paid to the average cost per pupil of state secondary education. In any case, it looks as if Mr Butt has confused average and marginal costs. Fees will be based on average cost per pupil; this is bound to be less than the marginal cost achieved by extracting a few pupils from each state secondary school. The financial memorandum to the Bill gives the cost of the assisted places scheme as £50,000,000; it does not show the consequential saving in the state system worth mentioning.

In Mr Butt's view the assisted places scheme will be a "healthy challenge" to the public sector of education. In fact, there is hardly anything of value which the public sector can learn from the independent schools because it has a different and much more difficult task to perform. Unlike the independents it cannot simplify that task by rejecting all those who do not show exceptional aptitude at the age of 11 and expelling those whose behaviour presents too many difficulties. Its job is to provide the best education the nation can afford for all the nation's children; it is on this job that the nation's efforts should be concentrated. Yours faithfully, STEWART OF FULHAM, House of Lords, March 6.

but living with the consequences was less easy. However, pressing adult citizens into competition is to risk making them feel less responsible for their own lives—making nonsense, surely, of introducing competition in the first place?

We concluded, therefore, that there was a need for a new service to which people could choose to come for assistance. The aim is to help them clarify their thinking and feelings before they act (even if divorce proceedings are already under way, it is an advisable step to make a cool appraisal). They may then be less likely to become embroiled in an interminable legal wrangle—so costly in both financial and emotional terms. Calmer consideration of problems and conflicts might lessen the chance of bitter feelings reverberating in future relationships—especially in the reconstructed families.

Our experience indicates that far from wishing to rush thoughtlessly into divorce proceedings, many people are anxious to consider the effects of actions on themselves and their families. They seem to value the opportunity counselling affords to resolve conflicts with as much good will as can be expected in such an inevitably fraught situation. Yours faithfully, PATRICIA HARRIS, HILARY HALPIN, Divorce Counselling and Advisory Service, 4 Tachbrook Street, SW1, February 28.

Policy for forestry

From Mr John Campbell

Sir, As a forester and a conservationist who has lived and worked with both forests and some of our rare bird species in the upland areas of Wales, I feel rather sad that two such venerable organisations as the Royal Forestry Society and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (Letters, February 22 and March 5) should apparently be in conflict when no real conflict exists.

With 50 acres of tropical forest being destroyed every minute every day, both organisations except "that it is certainly possible for the United Kingdom to accommodate a great expansion of forestry without detriment to other interests." During last year, 1979, the United Kingdom export of timber and wood products rose to an enormous £2,754m. Accelerated price increases during the next decade will make us vulnerable to the same pressures as we have now. Yours faithfully, JOHN CAMPBELL, Chief Executive, Economic Forestry Group, Forestry House, Great Basely, Oxford.

Orthodox counsel

From Mr Jane Khatib-Chahidi

Sir, With reference to the article appearing in *The Times* of February 28 entitled "Qom wisdom offered to the empire", I should like to draw your attention to the inaccuracies of the statement made by Mr Clive Irving that "They reveal one man's state of mind".

I have not seen the book mentioned but presume it is a translation of the French version which contains the same material cited, published under the title of "Principes Politiques, Philosophiques, Sociaux et Religieux de l'Ayatollah Khomeini". This consists of extracts, somewhat carefully selected for their "alien" content, of two much larger books compiled by the Ayatollah. Any person having a basic knowledge of Shari'ah Islam will be aware that Khomeini's book on religion and social principles does not differ with respect to purity, bodily functions and sexual behaviour from general Shi'ah Islamic doctrine. Other leading ayatollahs who have substantial followings at the present time have compiled similar books. These, in their turn,

do not differ widely from those compiled in the twelfth century by Shi'ite jurists and commentators. The Koran does not actually contain much of what is now subsumed under the label of "Koranic" by many Muslims. Islamic law and customs are also based on the Traditions (Sunnah)—recollections by witnesses, considered reliable, living in the time of the Prophet and the first Caliphs (for the Sunnis) or the Imams (for the Shi'ites). The followers of an "ayatollah" (e.g. Ayatollah Khomeini, Ayatollah Golpooshahi, Shariat, Khojeh) the most important one in present times, living in Najaf, will consult their leader on matters both spiritual and temporal; their decisions concerning both will be considered final.

Where Khomeini's teachings differ radically from the above-mentioned ayatollahs is his belief that the Islamic revolution should take place not only in Iran but in all countries where there are oppressors and oppressed. Yours faithfully, JANE KHATIB-CHAHIDI, 22 Lonsdale Road, Oxford, February 27.

Central heating for pensioners

From Mrs Margot K. Churcher

Sir, As an old-age pensioner, I cannot afford to keep my house heated for much of the day. It was, therefore, a great pleasure when I recently went in person to pay my electricity and gas bills (to save the cost of postage) to discover that both offices were at temperatures reminiscent of the south of France in a heat wave.

I then went into the local post office to draw my pension, and discovered that a new central heating system had been installed, doubtless to celebrate the new 10p and 12p letter rates. The temperature must have been 80°F.

Quite apart from the saving it would make on those operating expenses that they are always using as an excuse for higher charges, it would be nice if our public servants could make the same contribution to energy conservation as their prices have forced upon senior citizens.

Failing that, the obvious solution to old age pensioners' constant struggle to keep warm is to spend a few hours every day camping out in their friendly neighbourhood public offices. Yours sincerely, MARGOT K. CHURCHER, 99 Victoria Road, Warminster, Wiltshire, March 1.

Pots or kettles?

From Professor Graham Hough

Sir, There are many things in the trade union world about which everyone is confused. But there is really no need for Mr Leves (February 28) to feel confused about suits and ballots.

If all decisions both to strike and to return to work were taken by ballot it would be perfectly clear that they represented a majority decision of the workers concerned. Trade union leaders are terrified of the ballot because they know it would destroy their power—the power to make decisions without consulting their members and to maintain them by intimidation.

That is why Mr Sirs is out in wreck the proposed ballot of the steel workers, and the TUC has rejected Government proposals for ballots financed by the state. Yours faithfully, GRAHAM HOUGH, The White Cottage, Grantham, Cambridge, February 28.

Pleasures of patronage

From Mr Arthur Crook

Sir, May a very real admirer of Michael Ratcliffe's acumen and prose cavil at one sentence in his perceptive review of Charles Osborne's biography of Auden (March 6)? He writes: "He (Osborne) is a professional literary man, a poet, a critic and, as literature director of the Arts Council and organizer of the Poetry International, a patron of other poets." Mr Osborne may be the instrument, but surely he, the taxpayer, is the patron? He is one working for the Ford Foundation in New York, who excused a late arrival at luncheon by explaining that he had spent the morning commissioning three new operas. On that occasion, however, the apology was couched in the disarming question: "Can there be a more agreeable sensation than backing one's own individual fancies with someone else's money?" Yours, ARTHUR CROOK, The Garrick Club, WC2.

Hand to hand

From Mr Beverley Nichols

Sir, May I contribute to Bernard Levin's "parlour game" (March 5)? Among my mentors in the twenties was Albert Baillie, the old Dean of Windsor, who often entertained young writers at Windsor Castle, where the warthog of his personality compensated for the icy draughts of the Deanery.

One night we were discussing Carlyle's *French Revolution*. He mentioned, en passant, that his great-uncle had visited France in 1789. "A dull young man," he observed, "but judging by his portrait, extremely handsome. At his first ball in Paris he danced into the small hours with Marie Antoinette."

Yours faithfully, BEVERLEY NICHOLS, Snodbrook Cottage, Ham Gate Avenue, Ham Common, Richmond, Surrey, March 6.

In the dark

From Mr R. H. Richardson

Sir, In the autumn we put the clocks back to wintertime five weeks after the equinox. However, in the spring we have to wait until only a few days from March 21 before we are allowed to enjoy and to use an hour's extra daylight in the evening rather than to waste one in the morning.

Can you, or some learned reader, or better still the Home Office, the department responsible, explain why? What does the Department of Energy, Save-it Division, have to say?

Yours faithfully, R. H. RICHARDSON, 11 Broom Water, Teddington, Middlesex.

Ladies first

From Miss Mary Hayman

Sir, The women hostages in Bagdad have been released, but there has been no word of protest at this discrimination from Women's Lib. May one ask why not?

Yours faithfully, MARY HAYMAN, 3 Middle Woodbrook, Sidmouth, Devon, March 3.

Transport in London

From Mr Ian Simons

Sir, Your recent correspondence about London Transport, prompted a returning resident after five years in Paris, to pinpoint the differences between the RATP, probably the best public transport system in Europe and the London Transport, arguably the worst and certainly the most expensive.

The Paris system is clean. On the Metro, unlike the Underground, there are litter bins on platforms, no smoking is allowed in buses or trains; cleaning is carried out by outside contractors. But this agreeable state of affairs is as nothing compared to the sheer efficiency and cheapness of the system.

Trains and buses run frequently, each manned by one person. Automation works throughout the system for ticket control. Unlike the Tube, where stations have been equipped with robot monsters which need not be used. In Paris all stations and all buses have appropriate equipment.

Fares are raised once a year on July 1 throughout the system, no separate fares for buses, Metro, and they both cost the same. Apart from cleanliness, efficiency and frequency the system is also cheap. For between £3 and £12 a month (Paris is used for public transport

purposes so the more expensive seasons are those farthest from the centre) a ticket is available for the whole system, buses, Metro and the Paris equivalent of the North London BR line. The season can be bought on a monthly or yearly basis; the 10 ticket carnet or individual tickets can be bought any time in advance and all of them can be used interchangeably on any part of the system. Result? No queuing going into the stations and none to get out.

Can London Transport learn nothing from others experience? I heartily endorse Mr Blackburn's call (February 26) for Londoners to remedy matters; but not only for Sunday buses to revolutionize the whole concept and dynamism of what only 20 years ago was the envy of other countries, California had its successful Proposition 13 on taxation may we Londoners do something similar for London Transport. Yours faithfully, IAN SIMONS, 6 Holland Park, W11.

Wisdom and the arms race

From Canon Eric James

Sir, One can only be profoundly thankful that men of such military distinction as Sir John Clubb are now taking the attitude to nuclear

war revealed in his letter of March 3.

For some curious reason one of the last major speeches of Earl Mountbatten on the occasion of the award of the Louise Weiss Foundation Prize to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute at Strasbourg, on May 11, 1979, seemed to escape the attention of the press. Yet he said: "As a military man who has given half a century of active service I say in all sincerity that the nuclear arms race has no military purpose. Wars cannot be fought with nuclear weapons. Their existence only adds to our perils because of the illusions which they have generated. There are powerful voices around the world who still give credence to the old Roman precept—if you desire peace prepare for war. This is absolute nonsense."

We are all inclined to that great man's memory to heed his words. The whole deeply moving, yet closely reasoned speech deserves attention; and I would come to a privilege to send a copy of the speech to all your readers who request one. Yours sincerely, ERIC JAMES, Honorary Director, Christian Action, Rolywell Close, 43 Holwell Hill, St Albans, Herts.

SPORT

Football
City bid for
Reeves
rejected by
Norwich

Kevin Reeves will know within a week whether he will be leaving Manchester City. The City chairman, Sir Arthur Elton, has spoken to Peter Reeves, his City counterpart, and rejected a £250,000 offer for the defender.

Mr. Elton confirmed yesterday that he was not happy with Reeves, and the matter is still under consideration. He said he would consider the offer with the rest of the board tomorrow before deciding whether to accept or not. He said: "The matter will be decided one way or the other in the next 48 hours."

Mr. Elton explained why the club could be forced to part with Reeves who cost £250,000 from Southampton three years ago. Gates are not keeping up with the success of the team. Recently, the club has been one of the best in the league, but it has not been able to win the league. We have lost everything, but the response has been disappointing. It would be a disaster if we lost Reeves.

City desperately want Reeves to stay. Thursday's transfer deadline would mean that if Reeves is not sold, he would be a free agent. A Southampton manager to around £1m. A Southampton manager to around £1m. A Southampton manager to around £1m.

Southampton's manager, Lawrie McMenemy, who gives late tests to George (goal) and Andrews (striker) before leaving his club, said: "We lacked luck in our last game and Ball's turn will help get things right."

Reeves, 27, has been a regular in the first team since his arrival in January. He is a versatile defender who can play in any position. He has been a regular in the first team since his arrival in January.

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Ipswich will keep momentum going

By Norman Fox
Football Correspondent

A better FA Cup sixth round prospect it would be difficult to arrange. Today brings four matches of uncommon interest, all with special characteristics, and all with a round of two high for the last remaining outsiders, Watford and West Ham United.

If one game had to be elevated a fraction above the others it would be Tottenham Hotspur against Liverpool at White Hart Street. The match is a clash of styles. Tottenham, under the management of Kevin Keegan, is a team of speed and power. Liverpool, under the management of Bob Paisley, is a team of control and precision.

Another foreign player serving an English club with distinction is Ipswich, who has played out this season as a result of serious injuries. The club has been a success story, and the manager, Bobby Robson, has been a success story.

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One factor that Arsenal, fresh from their easy victory over Göteborg in the Cup Winners Cup, will be too strong.

The only member of Arsenal's cup winning team missing from the FA Cup is the captain, Rice, whose place at right back is retained by Devine. Brady, Stapleton and Sunderland, who were all injured in midweek, reported fit yesterday, so Watford will have to combat a team who sometimes lapse into the negative but at best look as if the season will not end without another trophy going to their cupboard. Even so, Watford have some sound, experienced players who could force a replay.

The situation of the fifth round is reversed in the sixth with the away teams being the favourites in all four cases. At least, that is the view of the bookmakers who must surely make at least one mistake. West Ham could be their trouble spot.

Celtic set for repeat success: Celtic, the favourites for a European Cup semi-final place after their outstanding victory over Real Madrid in midweek, attempt to reach the last four of the Scottish Cup today. The Premier League leaders meet Morton, who are second, in the

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Sixth round teams and referees

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LIVERPOOL (from): P. Neal, S. Naylor, R. Johnson, P. Dainton, G. Smith, J. Taylor, W. Hargrove, D. Booth, A. Palmer, L. Bisset, R. Jackson, J. Puckett.

WEST HAM (from): P. Partee, P. Brown, R. Stewart, A. Martin, E. G. Smith, J. Taylor, W. Hargrove, D. Booth, A. Palmer, L. Bisset, R. Jackson, J. Puckett.

ARSENAL (from): P. Neal, S. Naylor, R. Johnson, P. Dainton, G. Smith, J. Taylor, W. Hargrove, D. Booth, A. Palmer, L. Bisset, R. Jackson, J. Puckett.

SWANSEA (from): P. Neal, S. Naylor, R. Johnson, P. Dainton, G. Smith, J. Taylor, W. Hargrove, D. Booth, A. Palmer, L. Bisset, R. Jackson, J. Puckett.

LEICESTER (from): P. Neal, S. Naylor, R. Johnson, P. Dainton, G. Smith, J. Taylor, W. Hargrove, D. Booth, A. Palmer, L. Bisset, R. Jackson, J. Puckett.

MANCHESTER UNITED (from): P. Neal, S. Naylor, R. Johnson, P. Dainton, G. Smith, J. Taylor, W. Hargrove, D. Booth, A. Palmer, L. Bisset, R. Jackson, J. Puckett.

NOTTINGHAM FOREST (from): P. Neal, S. Naylor, R. Johnson, P. Dainton, G. Smith, J. Taylor, W. Hargrove, D. Booth, A. Palmer, L. Bisset, R. Jackson, J. Puckett.

WOLVES (from): P. Neal, S. Naylor, R. Johnson, P. Dainton, G. Smith, J. Taylor, W. Hargrove, D. Booth, A. Palmer, L. Bisset, R. Jackson, J. Puckett.

ST. PAULI (from): P. Neal, S. Naylor, R. Johnson, P. Dainton, G. Smith, J. Taylor, W. Hargrove, D. Booth, A. Palmer, L. Bisset, R. Jackson, J. Puckett.

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replacement. Aberdeen will be unchanged. The holders Rangers, who meet the first division leaders, Hearts, at Ibrox, will be without Redford who is Cup final.

Swerve the only other first division club left in the competition, are involved in an all-ticker day with Hibernian at Shillfield Park. The border club have an inspiring player-manager in Smith but Hibs should have too much polish for them.

Referee: C. Thomas (Porthcawl).

WATFORD (from): E. Dainton, G. Hughes, P. Muller, S. Perryman, G. Smith, J. Taylor, W. Hargrove, D. Booth, A. Palmer, L. Bisset, R. Jackson, J. Puckett.

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Rugby Union

Outlook not all black for the Harlequins

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

Andy Baden, the All Blacks lock forward based in Italy, is unable to play for Harlequins against Gloucester in the quarter-final round of the John Player Cup on the Stoop Memorial ground at Twickenham this afternoon. This must be a setback to the hopes of the one London club favoured by a home draw, but they had an impressive win at Nottingham in the last round and they must be hoping that Baden's deputy, Nigel O'Brien, goes as well as he is reported to have done when playing against Nigel Horton and the Wasps in a midweek Cup tie.

Gloucester are fielding the side that won 10-0 at Bath in the second round. They are quietly confident of moving a step nearer to their third final in five seasons.

Harlequins, who have their best side on the Stoop, are also confident of moving a step nearer to their third final in five seasons.

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I leave until last the contest, Gloucester against Rosslyn Park at Kingsholm, which promises perhaps the starkest struggle in the knockout competition which is almost identical, although Gloucester can point to two successive final appearances.

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Golf

Late birdie rush keeps Townsend in lead

From Peter Ryde
Yamousookro, Ivory Coast, March 7

SPORT
Racing

Random Leg looks equal to task

By Michael Phillips

Josh Gifford, whose stable at Finton has enjoyed such success already this season, has a good chance of increasing his haul today at Chesham and Sandown Park.

At Chesham, Gifford has a first-rate chance of winning the Random Leg Hurdle with his stable's best horse, who has been placed in the race on three occasions since he arrived from Ireland at the beginning of December. The Norfolk Arrow, who has won the Imperial Cup at Sandown in less than a year, is a wide open race, but it is quite capable of being still in the hunt at the end.

At one stage Random Leg's connections were seriously considering the idea of going for the Champion Hurdle. Wisely, in my opinion, they decided to stay at Chesham, where the horse has been placed in the final of this series when he beat Sea Image by 10 lengths at Sandown in January. Before that, Random Leg had won only two and a half lengths by Walnut Wonder in Chesham's own heat; that form alone would appear to give Random Leg the definite edge.

Since then Random Leg has beaten Walnut Wonder in the length at Wincanton, Random Leg and Walnut Wonder must both give 25 lb to all the other horses in this series because they have won a race worth £3,000 this season. Since its inception, this final has never been won by a horse carrying a penalty, but it is what may turn out to be a sub-standard year over all, Random Leg should prove equal to the task.

Those who jumped on the bandwagon and backed Secret Ballot down to fourth in the Imperial Cup on Thursday, have burned their fingers unfortunately. Good ground is a prerequisite for Secret Ballot and he was withdrawn yesterday, even before it became abundantly clear that he



Royal acclaim: Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother presents the Horse and Hound Grand Military Gold Cup to Broderick Munro-Wilson, owner, trainer and rider of Beeno.

heavy rain during the previous 24 hours had left its mark.

Yesterday there was a persistent pit for Hay Ride but he seems to have too much ground to make up on Golden Vow. After all there was as much as 27 lengths between them at Doncaster only 12 days ago, when they finished second and fifth respectively in the Princess Royal Hurdle. If Hay Ride does manage to win this time, the stewards would be only right to ask a few questions. Golden Vow won today's course and distance in December, and he would have a fine chance of landing the spoils again judged on that performance alone. But the rain may well have washed away his hopes too.

In the circumstances, I am surprised to make a chance for Norfolk Arrow, who looked somewhat unlikely at Chesham when he was beaten, albeit only narrowly, by Callagha and Kibbory. Now that the ground is very soft

Dutch Treat should be in his element, and he looks a good bet to finish in the first four.

Following what he described as an enjoyable experience riding in a flat race for the first time at Plumpton on Tuesday, the Prince of Wales will have his first ride in a handicap at Sandown today on Sea Swell in the Duke of Gloucester Memorial Trophy Steeplechase. His mount has won over today's course and distance in his time, and he is what one might describe as a safe conveyance. But with the best will in the world, it is difficult to envisage Prince Charles and Sea Swell beating Captain Hodges and the former Gold Cup winner, Ten Up, who are in their element in these affairs, as they proved at Newbury a week ago.

Ridden by his owner, Broderick Munro-Wilson, Beeno won an eventful race for the Horse and Hound Grand Military Gold Cup at Sandown Park yesterday. With two loose horses weaving around

seemingly trying their best to create havoc, Mr Munro-Wilson needed to keep the nerve which service in the SAS must have taught him.

Beeno started the outsider of the party at 25.1. His chance of winning, which appeared to be negligible beforehand, was improved first when heavy rain washed away Lord Allendale's hopes of Mark Henry winning and then again when the favourite, Collars and Cuffs, made a hash of jumping the fourth fence and got rid of his rider, Major Graham. Thereafter only a disaster caused by one or other of the loose horses looked like robbing Beeno of his victory.

Earlier in the day Tim Thomson Jones enjoyed a much less hazardous ride on Charlie Mouse to win the Dick McCreery cup and keep alive his chances of winning the amateur riders' championship this season.

Direct Line to strike while the iron is hot

By Michael Seely

Sandown and Chesham steal most of the thunder of this afternoon's racing but there is also some interesting sport promised at Ayr and Doncaster. On the Scottish scene, Direct Line and Silent Valley look worth support in the feature event, the ICI Handicap Hurdle, which is run over 2 miles, 4 furlongs and 100 yards.

Four horses fall into that category, Direct Line, Allick, Hallex and Phil the Fluter. Direct Line is a 10-year-old gelding who has been in the near future but his trainer, Arthur Stephenson, believes he is still in the striking while the iron is hot. At Kelso on Tuesday, Direct Line won his third race of the season by six lengths and in so doing landed a hefty gamble.

Allick was also well backed when successful at Haydock Park last Saturday, but he is a five-year-old who has been in the form when fresh. On this occasion Allick had been off the track for over a month.

There is little to choose between Hallex and Phil the Fluter. In theory Phil the Fluter should come out on top for he meets Hallex on better terms than when beating Tony Dickin-

son's six-year-old at Stockton. However, Hallex put up a better performance at Wetherby next time out when just flogging the late attack of Fordina's Express.

A great deal will depend upon the state of the ground. The going is forecast as likely to be good at Ayr, in which case, Direct Line will take some beating. Stephenson could well land a double with Direct Line.

The opening race on the card should fall to Candorah, who has Fair Rambler to beat in the Appleyard Hunters Chase. Fair Rambler has the advantage of fitness, having finished runner-up to Candorah in the same race at Ayr in January. The banker bet at Ayr is John O'Neill's mount, Flying Gamble, who is a confident choice to land the Alfons Norries Chase.

The soundest wager at Doncaster should be on the Handicap Hurdle. Maura Hul won a competitive novices race in fine style at Market Rasen and cannot be expected off this mark in the weights.

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Hard to Sing can call tune

From Desmond Stoneham

Fragrant Racing Correspondent

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Weekend fixtures

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

FA Cup sixth round

Everton v Ipswich

Tottenham H. v Liverpool

Watford v Arsenal

West Ham Utd. v Aston Villa

First division

Coventry v West Bromwich A.

Crystal Palace v Bolton

Derby v Stoke

Leeds v Southampton

Norwich v Brighton

Second division

Bristol Rovers v Orient

Barnley v Q.P. Rangers

Cambridge Utd. v Newcastle

Cardiff v Charlton

Fulham v Chelsea

Oxford v Swans

Preston N.E. v Luton

Shrewsbury v Birmingham

Sunderland v Leicester

Third division

Brentford v Plymouth

Bury v Reading (3.15)

Carlisle v Oxford Utd

Chester v Barnsley

Chesham v Southend

Colchester v Blackburn

Exeter v Hull City

Gillingham v Mansfield

Millwall v Sheffield Utd

Rotherham v Grimsby

Sheff Wed v Wimbledon

Swindon v Blackpool

Fourth division

Aldershot v Hereford

Bournemouth v Bradford City

Crewe v Hartlepool

Halifax v Torquay

Northampton v Rochdale

Peterborough v Darlington

Port Vale v Walsall

Scunthorpe v Tranmere (3.15)

Stockport v Lincoln

Wigan Ath v Newport

York City v Huddersfield

Scottish Cup, fifth round

Berwick v Aberdeen

Celtic v Morton

Partick Th v Aberdeen

Rangers v Hearts

Scottish premier division

Dundee Utd v Kilmarnock

St Mirren v Dundee

Scottish first division

Ayr v Airdrie

Dumfries v Clyde

Hamilton v Arbroath

Motherwell v Dumbarton

Stirling Alb v Clydebank

St Johnstone v Raith Rovers

Scottish second division

Aldon Rovers v East Fife

Brechin v E Stirlingshire

Falkirk v Montrose

Forfar v Queen of South

Meadowbank v Cowdenbeath

Queen's Park v Alloa

Stenhousemuir v Stranraer

Rugby Union

John Player Cup: quarter final

Leeds v Bath

Gloucester v Bristol

Leeds v Bath

Gloucester v Bristol

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THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

Personal
investment and
finance
pages 18 and 19

Stock markets
FT Ind 455.7, down 2.3
FT Cils 63.85, down 0.09

Sterling
\$222.85, down 50 pts
Index 71.9, down 0.1

Dollar
Index 87.2, up 0.1

Gold
\$613.50, down 514

Money
3 mth sterling 18-18 1/2
3 mth Euro 18 1/2-18 1/2
6 mth Euro 18 1/2-18 1/2

IN BRIEF

Rhodesian dollar evaluated by 1.9 pc

The Rhodesian dollar has been evaluated by about 3.9 per cent against all currencies other than the South African rand, effective immediately. The Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe has decided to introduce a fixed rate against the rand, fluctuating rates against other currencies.

"In future the rand exchange rate will be quoted in the same way as the exchange rates for other currencies, and could, therefore, vary from day to day."

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E factory decision

General Electric has announced that its factory in Worthington, Ohio, which has been producing a range of electronic equipment for the EEC countries, will be closed. A decision will be made before April.

R hotels reassured

British Rail's shipping, hotel and property interests will not be affected by the proposed merger of the two companies, it was announced yesterday. The merger will be completed by the end of the year.

pending to 1984

The Government is to publish its White Paper on spending for the years 1983/84 and 1984/85. The paper will state the cuts for the coming financial year.

KN air deal

KN air deal: two CL 44 aircraft from British Airways to be sold to the airline. The deal is worth £1,250,000. It is possible that the remaining four CL 44s will also be sold to the airline.

all for curb on doors

British woodworkers have lobbied on the European Commission to take anti-dumping action against imports into the United Kingdom of Taiwanese and other low-cost doors.

wilght for Hall

A liquidator has begun winding up the Fishing Vessel Owners Association. The association's affairs are in a state of liquidation. The liquidator is Mr. Peter Lewis.

Prime rates again soar to record levels with 18 pc set in Chicago

By Caroline Atkinson
in London
and Frank Vogl
in Washington

The latest round in the international interest rate war came yesterday with further rises in United States prime rates. Large banks, including Citibank, raised their rates 1 point to a record 17 1/2 per cent, and Harris Trust, of Chicago, went further to 18 per cent.

Money was still rushing into dollars for most of the day, attracted by ever higher American interest rates. Some dealers had expected Citibank to go higher than 17 1/2 per cent, and so held back for a while. The bank itself admitted that on purely market considerations the prime rate should go above 17 1/2.

The United States money markets are waiting to see what new economic steps President Carter will announce, and whether the Fed intends to act as well.

Prices on Wall Street were depressed yesterday as the banks raised the cost of finance for their most credit-worthy customers for the first time this year. Still higher rates are widely expected to come as inflation continues to accelerate.

German, Swiss and Japanese central banks were again in the foreign exchange markets selling dollars to hold up their currencies. The dollar topped DM1.80 at one stage before coming back to close at DM1.795.

Sterling was 1 cent down on the day at \$2.2285. Against a basket of currencies it lost 0.1 points to finish at 71.9 per cent of its end 1971 value.

Scoring has fallen sharply in the last week but has not been under such selling pressure in the market as other, usually hard currencies. The difference has been that the Bank of England has not spent much in trying to support the pound, in contrast to other central banks.

The German, Swiss and Japanese are worried about the inflationary consequences of a fall in their exchange rates. The Japanese were thought to be preparing "bold actions".

Trade minister challenged

over £20m radar order

By Donald MacIntyre
Labour Reporter

The Government is coming under growing trade union pressure to intervene to prevent the Civil Aviation Authority from buying up to £20m of radar equipment abroad rather than from Plessey or Marconi.

Union leaders have been angered that the CAA has invited tenders from foreign companies, besides those in Britain, for replacement radar equipment for tracking aircraft using airports in the East and the South East of England.

The Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers (Technical Administrative and Supervisory Staffs) has written to Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Trade, demanding an urgent meeting to discuss the order.

The Electrical Electronic Telecommunications and Plumbing Union also yesterday wrote "alarmed" by the news that the CAA was "about to order" the equipment from Westinghouse in the United States or Signal in Holland.

Mr Roy Sanderson, the EEUPT's national officer for engineering, said the CAA's "impending action is yet another example of a United Kingdom public body acting directly against the interests of the United Kingdom engineering industry".

Mr Sanderson added: "The EEUPT, he said, was determined to press the Government to adopt the methods and attitudes of our foreign competitors on the matter of imports and public purchasing."

have spent \$500m holding up the yen in Tokyo yesterday. The Bundesbank may have spent as much as \$2,000m in the last week in helping the yen. They are both anxious to resist the effects on financial markets of the drastic United States rise in interest rates in the last few weeks.

The American banks' moves yesterday came after the publication of two important economic reports. The first, on wholesale prices, showed that last month's big 1.6 per cent increase was not a freak, as the gain in February was just fraction less, at 1.5 per cent.

The second report, on employment, suggested that the economy has still not dipped into a recession. Unemployment declined by 0.2 per cent in February to 6 per cent.

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Callaghan call to reject Inmos site

By Kenneth Owen
Technology Editor

In the continuing controversy over the location of the first United Kingdom factory of Inmos, the National Enterprise Board's semiconductor subsidiary, Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, was yesterday urged by Mr James Callaghan, leader of the Opposition, to refuse to issue an Industrial Development Certificate for the proposed factory at Bristol.

Earlier, Sir Keith had told Mr Callaghan that he (Sir Keith) had no power to direct Inmos to locate a factory at any particular site. Yesterday Sir Keith received a letter from Mr Callaghan in which the former Prime Minister argued that the Secretary of State did have power to indicate where the company should not go.

Inmos already has a technology centre (for research and development) at Bristol, and has chosen Bristol for the factory, in part because of the benefits of having the two units close together. Opposition to the choice of site has come from MPs representing constituencies in the assisted areas, including Mr Callaghan (Cardiff, south-east) among the South Wales members.

On March 5 Sir Keith wrote to Mr Callaghan: "The Government's involvement in the project is limited to (a) deciding whether to provide further funding and (b) depending on the location chosen by Inmos, whether to provide an Industrial Development Certificate. The decision about the actual location is a matter for the National Enterprise Board and Inmos."

On Tuesday I met a delegation led by Mr Alan Williams, consisting of MPs representing assisted areas. They put to me the case for the project to be sited in an assisted area on the basis of my control over the issue of an IDC and in particular the case for Cardiff and Washington referred to in the FA Consultants' report. I listened, of course, to their arguments and will take all that was said into account, but I must emphasize that I have no powers to direct Inmos to site the project in a particular area.

"My duty is to decide, if the further funding is provided by the Government, whether or not to grant an IDC for the proposed Bristol factory. I repeat that I have no power to direct Inmos where to go."

Mr Callaghan's reply, on March 6 and received by Sir Keith yesterday, said: "Of course I recognize that you have no power to direct Inmos where to go. On the other hand, in view of the size of the unit, more than 50,000 sq ft, it is possible for you to indicate where they should not go."

This is a reference to the minimum size of unit for which an IDC is required, and is, in other words, a plea that an IDC should not be granted. Mr Callaghan continued:

"That fact, combined with the requirement that the NEB has to take into account other matters of regional needs, gives you, in my judgment, a rather greater influence in this matter than your letter indicates."

The NEB's recommendation that Inmos should receive its second tranche of £25m funding was considered by a Cabinet committee last Thursday but no conclusion emerged. It will be discussed again early next week.

The offer depends on the usual conditions, including an indication from the Office of Fair Trading that it does not plan to refer the deal to the Monopolies Commission.

The American group thinks that it has much to contribute to Serck. In valves where Rockwell is big in the United States, it can see several ways of helping Serck. The plan is to increase sharply Serck's output of industrial ball and butterfly valves which Rockwell does not make for sale in the United States.

Serck is also to get the technology to make better plug valves and other special purpose valves that the United Kingdom group does not now make.

Rockwell already has a presence in the United Kingdom with sales of £185.8m and assets of nearly £140m.

Serck employs around 4,700 in the United Kingdom and the value of its assets last September was £37.1m, or just over 87p a share.

Rockwell was a commanding position after a stock market raid in which Casanova, the broker bought its entire stake in three hours when it let be known to institutions and the market that 75p a share was available. This was almost double the previous market price.

The move caught Serck by surprise, and the Stock Exchange started investigating dealings just before the raid.

Serck is no stranger to bid approaches. It fought off a £34m bid worth 85p a share from Associated Engineers early in 1977.

Rockwell itself in May last year succeeded in gaining Wilmore-Breeden, and in June obtained a listing for its shares on the Stock Exchange.

Call for cement 'price ring' action

By John Huxley

Civil engineering leaders have attacked the marketing arrangements of cement makers, accusing them of operating a "price ring" which allows them to "get away with legalized murder".

Mr John Nott, the Secretary of State for Trade, will be asked to examine the justification for permitting the cement cartel to continue.

Since before the Second World War, prices of Portland cement have been the subject of a common pricing agreement, now struck through the Cement Makers' Federation. It comprises six of the seven makers in the United Kingdom, of whom by far the largest is Blue Circle.

The federation raised prices by 24 per cent at the beginning of this month, an increase, which in the scale and timing, has incensed members of the Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors.

Yesterday, Mr Derek Gaultier, its director general, asked: "How can we believe in the Government's commitment to the market economy when we see the cement price ring getting away with legalized murder?"

The cartel has been challenged in the Restrictive Practices Court twice, most recently in 1973. Both were unsuccessful. Since then, the Price Commission has reported on price increases sought by Rugby Portland and Blue Circle which together commanded about three-quarters of the market.

The cement makers, who have agreed to meet federation representatives on Tuesday, contend that last month's rise was needed to cover "substantially increasing costs" of energy.

However, customers, of whom civil engineers are among the largest, point out that prices have risen sharply over the past couple of years. Last year, prices rose by 24 per cent in two stages. Customers are also angry that only two weeks' notice of the most recent increase was given.

Investment: Blue Circle will invest \$13m (£3.5m) in a proposed 1 million-tonne cement plant to be built in Northern Sumatra.

Remaining workers set to picket Meccano factory

By R. W. Shakespeare
Northern Industrial Correspondent

The three months old strike by workers dismissed at the Airfix Industries' Meccano and Dinky Toys factory in Liverpool seems likely to end with the remaining defiant few walking out of the plant when court bailiffs arrive to enforce a High Court possession order won by the company earlier this week.

However, last night there was still no clear indication of when that will happen.

Yesterday a 40-strong picket—not all of them Airfix former employees—turned up to a man a makeshift barricade outside the factory.

Inside the plant Mr Mike Egan, Liverpool district officer of the General and Municipal Workers' Union told a meeting of workers thought to number no more than 50 of the original 940 strong labour force—that they should leave the plant peacefully when the bailiffs arrived. He said they would then be free to join the picket line outside.

Mr Egan said: "We know a lot of you are saying that you want to carry on with the occupation, but we have taken legal advice. We know exactly where we stand when the bailiffs come. When they have served the writ we will have the police following."

He added that when the bailiffs arrived a buzzer would be sounded in the factory, and workers should then leave.

A spokesman for Airfix said last night "this matter is now in the hands of the sheriff, and the company is making no further comment for the time being."

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Inside the plant Mr Mike Egan,

Stock Exchange Prices

Quiet close to account

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin, Monday, Dealings End, March 21. § Comango Day, March 24. Settlement Day, March 31.
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

BELL'S
SCOTCH WHISKY
BELL'S

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Shoparound with Beryl Downing Shoparound with Beryl Downing Shoparound with Beryl Downing Shoparound with Beryl Downing Shoparound with Beryl Downing

The Ideal Home exhibition turns up every year like Beaujolais nouveau—mediocre rather than memorable, but particularly palatable if you have been on the wagon for a while. So perhaps the reason I enjoyed this year's offering was because I haven't "done" the exhibition for some time.

The unfortunate proliferation of indifferent furniture stands which line the route to the five show houses made me feel I had walked into a long-running soap-opera. They all looked exactly the same as they did years ago. Why they all make their stands look like mini-department stores I cannot understand.

There seems to me to be only one effective way of displaying furniture: at an exhibition or in a shop, and that is as a room-set. Why don't the exhibitors turn their stands into room-sets—open versions, if you like, of the houses themselves? People need to see furniture as it would look in their own homes and I am sure visitors would be grateful for the opportunity of gleaning extra decoration ideas without having to queue interminably for the show houses. Does anyone have the stamina to file through them all?

If your spirit is willing, but your feet are weak, I suggest you just visit the Countrycraft house, whose furnishings by Designers Guild are quite the prettiest of all the houses I visited. I can't speak for the Davis Estate house, as they wouldn't let me see their interior because they were having a "private reception", which seemed somewhat at variance with the purpose of press day.

Incidentally, Designers Guild have produced a superb book called *Soft Furnishings*, with lots of coloured illustrations to give you copiable ideas and plenty of practical advice on making all sorts of furnishings. Published by Pan, the book costs £4.95 at the exhibition or, with p.p., £5.95 from Designers Guild, 277 Kings Road, London SW3 5EN.

Watching other people work is always a riveting pastime, particularly when their craft is an unusual one. On the Skill in Action stand I was fascinated to see artists from the Canterbury Stained Glass Company cutting, leading and painting their glowing sheets of solidified colour.

Designer-director Jonathan Groves told me that stained glass is by no means confined to church windows these days. There has been quite a revival of interest in its use as door panels and as design features in office blocks.

"The cost of building is so enormous that architects are often forced by their limited budgets to put up very basic buildings. For a few hundred pounds they can include a stained glass panel which gives sparkle and colour and lifts the boredom of the concrete."

The Canterbury team specializes in painting on the stained glass, which comes to them in coloured sheets from the glass blowers. Their technique gives extra tone and depth—they even achieve shading on the cheeks of their figures.

They have a range of designs in standard sizes which would be suitable for door panels, which cost around £50 to £60 a square foot painted, and £40 to £45 in plain stained glass.

They are also prepared to create designs especially for you, and will visit your home to discuss the possibilities of the site you have in mind. For details write to the Canterbury Stained Glass Company, 33 Palace Street, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2DZ.

Two other stands had particularly interesting items. The first was British Gas, where Cannon's 1200G Hotplate was on display for the first time. It is a separate hob unit to be set in a worktop and has not only the standard four burners but an integral non-stick griddle, heated from below.

On it you can cook hamburgers, drop scones, eggs, bacon or anything else that can be dry-fried. You simply wipe it clean, or if you do spill food down the sides, the whole griddle lifts off for cleaning. With its flat cover in place it can also be used as a warming plate. The price is £219 and North Thames Gas showrooms are taking orders for it now. Delivery should be within a few weeks.

The other stand with a good story to tell could easily be missed. It is Astraseal, stand 216, in the corner just behind the Barratt House. They specialize in PVC framed, double-glazed replacement windows.

Having lived for a time in Switzerland, I have always been surprised by the extraordinary impracticability of windows in this country. Why are flats and offices built with windows that can only be cleaned from the outside? Well-designed windows should open inwards, or swivel on a centre pivot; double glazing should prevent condensation (mine is aluminium and doesn't) and large picture windows and patio doors should be able to give ventilation without offering open-house to every sneak thief in the area.

Astraseal windows meet all these requirements. They have a special two-way opening device which will tilt the window vertically or can be used to open the window conventionally, but inwards. The patio doors have a sliding lock mechanism which allows them to be pulled open about 6 inches, where they lock, allowing in air but not intruders. With a touch of the foot the lock is released and the doors can slide completely open.

There are three British standards of weatherproof windows—sheltered, moderate and severe—and Astraseal conforms to the most stringent. They are not confined to modern houses, but can be fitted to any style, from Georgian to charred cottage, as all are made to measure.

Prices? Each commission will be individual, but they compare reasonably with other companies. A friend recently had patio doors fitted, 12ft 6in x 8ft 6in, with transoms. They cost £1,000, actually seem to create condensation and are thoroughly unsatisfactory. Astraseal's would cost about the same, but you'd be getting your money's worth.

If you would like to know more about window replacement, they have just produced a booklet which tells you how to recognize signs of deterioration in your existing windows and what types of replacement are possible. It also gives practical and less expensive solutions to some common problems such as badly fitting frames, decay and draughts.

To obtain a copy, send a stamped, addressed envelope, 8½in x 4½in, to Consumer Advisory Booklet, Repworth Astraseal, Poulton Moor Works, Padfield, Burnley, Lancashire BB12 7JR. You can also get names of local suppliers from the same address.

The Carron 1200G gas burners and griddle, £219, through North Thames Gas showrooms.



Below: From the Marks and Spencer beachwear range in major stores this week—a jump suit in cyclamen or bright

blue cotton and polyester towelling, £7.99, and a dress

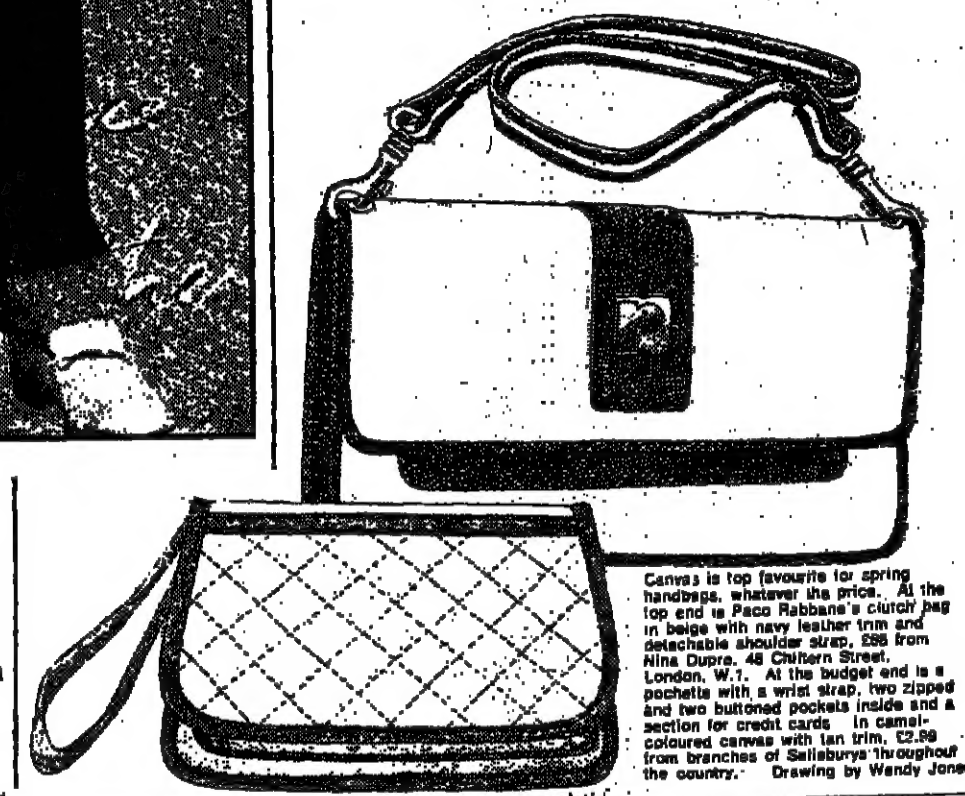
In the same colours, banded in navy and white, £9.99.

Sizes 10 to 16, and there are matching bikinis.



Best value denim jeans around cost only £7.99 from Tesco. We tried them on three figure types—petite, skinny and distinctly dumpling—and the cut suited them all. Sizes 10 to 18. The blouse in white with red and blue stripes, is £3.99, sizes 12 to 18. Both from major Tesco Home & Wear stores. Red canvas shoulder bag with leather trim £3.99 from branches of Salsburys.

Photograph by Eric Howard



Canvas is top favourite for spring handbags, whatever the price. At the top end is Paco Rabanne's clutch bag in beige with new leather trim and detachable shoulder strap, £28 from Nina Dupre, 48 Chiltern Street, London W1. At the budget end is a pochette with a wrist strap, two zipped and two buttoned pockets inside and a section for credit cards in camouflaged canvas with tan trim, £2.99 from branches of Salsburys throughout the country. Drawing by Wendy Jones

oxides to incredibly high temperatures and pressure. They can be cut and faceted like diamonds and the only way experts can tell them apart is by ultra-sound or by the felt pen test, which produces a series of dots on cubic zirconia, which costs about £50 a carat, and an unbroken line on a diamond which, depending on quality, can cost from £1,000 a carat upwards.

The people specializing in these fakes are Windsor Jewels at 10 Beauchamp Place, London SW3. I make no apology for the word "fake" as the only possible reason for wearing something that can't be detected from a diamond is to pretend that's just what it is.

The shop is part of an international chain set up by two ex-advertising men (sic) who at first refused to believe that the restrained British feel that 21 carats—about 9mm diameter—is as much kitch as they can get away with. In their Palm Beach shop the average sale is \$4,000—and for that money you get a awful lot of fake sparkle—but after trying a few rock-size rocks in Beauchamp Place, they had to take them back to America, unsold.

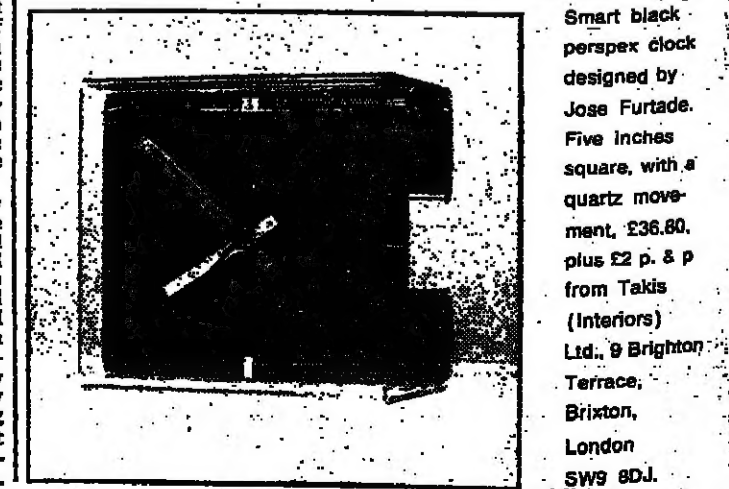
But what is the fun of having a diamond that isn't real? Do women buy them for themselves to impress other women? Would you love a man who said, "Darling, come with me to buy a fake engagement ring?" Or, worse still, one who didn't own up.

The one useful contribution this man-made marvel can make, it seems to me, is in the bear-the-burglars game. If you have a family heirloom that costs a fortune to insure and if you live in London and pay 21 to 3 per cent all risks, you could put the jewels in the bank, save the insurance money for two years and spend it on having a copy made, which you could then safely wear to the hunt ball.

But beware the believability factor. At one time, if you were the colonel's lady you could wear fake and everyone would assume it was real, and if you were Susie O'Grady you could sport your only inheritance and it would be assumed to be a vulgar imitation. Today, everyone knows the colonel's lady had to pawn the tiara to pay for the roof on the west wing and everyone suspects that Susie's Cartier bracelet is somebody else's husband's tax loss.



Pretty and practical baby dress in white polyester and cotton with coloured spots and braid trimming. For 6-18 months, £5.50 from Army & Navy stores at Guildford, Camberley, Bromley, Chichester, Maidstone, and Eastbourne from next Saturday.



Smart black perspex clock designed by Jose Furtado. Five inches square, with a quartz movement, £36.80, plus £2 p. & p from Talds (Interiors) Ltd., 9 Brighton Terrace, Brixton, London SW9 8DJ.

Good news for people with problem skins and limited budgets. Marks and Spencer have this week launched a range of cosmetics and skin treatments called *Fragrance Free*. They are careful not to say that the products are non-allergenic, but as scent is the ingredient most likely to create an allergy to skin products, you can draw your own conclusions.

There is a freshener, a toner, a moisturizing lotion and a night cream, each at £1.25, a creamy cleanser at £1.75 and a range of four lipsticks, three eyeshadows, three shades of foundation, two shades of powder cream blusher and one tran-

slucient powder. These cost 99p each.

The pale green packaging is very up-market and, having tried the creams, I would particularly recommend them for normal and greasy skins. You might find them slightly under-nourishing for very dry skins. The lipsticks are creamy, and the foundation very light and unclinging.

Distribution is limited at the moment to the central London and Kensington branches and those at Birmingham, Brighton, Bournemouth, Liverpool, Maidenhead, Manchester, Sheffield, Solihull and Glasgow, but if you make loud enough demands in other branches you will probably find the list of stockists extended fairly soon.

The rumblings in the art world about the doubtful authenticity of a group of Old Master drawings (*The Times*, March 3) made me wonder exactly when a reproduction becomes a fake. The obvious answer is when it pretends to be the original, when its aim is to deceive. But it must also be something to do with our own definition of value.

Suppose you have lived for years with a picture or a piece of furniture you believed to be genuine—you got it for a song, years ago, so the amount you paid is irrelevant. Then an expert tells you it is a copy. Do you instantly stop liking it? The answer, more often than not, is yes. You now have to defend your attachment to the

piece because other people's aesthetic judgement of it is very much bound up with its value in the market place. Yet the day before the expert gave his opinion, your picture was the same colour, painted by the same artist, your furniture had the same lines, made by the same craftsman. It just isn't "real" any more.

Now if the same philosophy were applied to women, where should we—and our hairdressers—all be? There was a time when bottle-blondes were distinctly suspect. I went around for years as a red-head because I thought my own natural fairness was a cliché. Being a busy blonde is one thing when you have a grown-up son to guarantee your mother-image. Quite another when you were 22 and

anxious not to be type-cast in your local dramatic society. Today, however, unless you are an earnest intellectual married to a nuclear scientist based in Scotland, you are actually expected to do the decent thing and "lift" the colour of your hair, the height of your chins or, indeed, any other part of your anatomy that might be doubling or dropping.

Which brings me to the cause of all this introspection. I have been looking at fake diamonds. Very, very good fake diamonds. In fact, diamonds that fool not only the experts but the burglars.

They are made of cubic zirconia, which originated in Russia as a by-product of the space-age, and consists of crystals formed by submitting

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